



Small Group Work Sheet

John 10:22-42 - The World's Greatest Hero

April 14, 2013

Part 1 - Ice Breaker

1. Who is your favorite action hero?

Part 2 - Sermon Review

2. What do you remember from the sermon about the history behind the Feast of Dedication? What will Jesus do that makes him the greatest hero of history?
3. Read John 10:25-26; 1 John 4:6; Ephesians 2:8; John 8:47. Why won't some people believe? How does this help us understand what happens when we share the Gospel?
4. Read John 10:28-29; 1 Peter 1:5; Hebrews 7:25. Can a Christian lose their salvation? If they walk away from Christ, what happened?
5. Read John 10:30-33; 8:58; Titus 2:13; 1 John 5:20. How would you answer a Jehovah's Witness who says, "When Jesus says, 'I and the Father are one' Jesus is only claiming to be united in thought and purpose with God the Father?"
6. Read John 10:37-38. Jesus knew that talk is cheap, actions show the truth. What are the "only God can do this" miracles Jesus has done so far in this Gospel that leave no doubt that he is God? What are the "only God can do this" miracles Jesus is about to do that will remove all doubt of his claims to be God's only Son? (*They are miracles over death.*)

Part 3 - Digging Deeper - The Bible's Authority

If he called them gods to whom the word of God came—and Scripture cannot be broken—do you say of him whom the Father consecrated and sent into the world, 'You are blaspheming,' because I said, 'I am the Son of God'? John 10:35–36 (ESV)

Jesus makes an interesting argument. He quotes from Psalm 82:6 to make his case for being the Son of God. I love the way he does this. Jesus takes one little word, in a little verse of a relatively unknown Psalm and he builds his entire case for being the Son of God on it. How can he do that?

Jesus is teaching what is called *the plenary authority of the Bible*. That means not just certain parts of the Bible are God's Words, but all parts. The famous authors and the unknown authors, every verse, every word and every piece. Every part of the Word of God is authoritative and cannot be broken. That is why Jesus could take this little known poem by a little known author in a backwater part of the Bible and build his whole case for accepting him as God's Son on it.

Jesus did the same thing when it came to arguing for the existence of life after death. He based his entire argument on the tense of one Hebrew verb.

And as for the dead being raised, have you not read in the book of Moses, in the passage about the bush, how God spoke to him, saying, 'I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob'? He is not God of the dead, but of the living. You are quite wrong.' Mark 12:26–27 (ESV)

What is this teaching us? Some people love the New Testament but ignore the Old Testament because it is too violent. Some people love Paul's writing but ignore the rest. When we start ignoring parts of the Bible because they are difficult or appear out of touch, we are abandoning the approach to the Bible Jesus used.

Today, believing all of the Bible to be the authoritative and infallible is considered a quaint out-of-date approach. Very few churches believe all of the Bible is authoritative for life. In all practicality, they set themselves over the Bible with a pair of scissors to cut out the pieces they don't agree with.

This is a new approach to biblical interpretation. For the first 17 centuries of the church, every church and denomination considered *all of the Bible* as infallible. Nobody could force you to be a Christian, but if you said you were a Christian that meant you took the entire Bible as your guide. You sat under all of it. You didn't get to pick and choose what you liked wanted like the Bible was a buffet line.

To be a follower of Christ means to accept Jesus' view on the authority of the Bible. If we can't trust what Jesus says about all of the Bible being God's Word, we can't trust Jesus with our life.

This week, read a section of the Bible you haven't read before. Even if it is hard to understand, ask the Holy Spirit to apply it to your life.