

BIG IDEAS FROM LITTLE BOOKS

DISCUSSION GUIDE

DISCUSSION GOAL



Discuss false teaching that actively oppose the good news of Christ, how they make their way into the church and how we can protect against them.

ICE BREAKER



Have you ever fallen for a “too good to be true” product? If so, what was it and how was your experience?

TEXT



Have a member of your group read the passage aloud.

Jude 1-16

¹ Jude, a servant of Jesus Christ and brother of James,

To those who are called, beloved in God the Father and kept for Jesus Christ:

² May mercy, peace, and love be multiplied to you.

³ Beloved, although I was very eager to write to you about our common salvation, I found it necessary to write appealing to you to contend for the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints. ⁴ For certain people have crept in unnoticed who long ago were designated for this condemnation, ungodly people, who pervert the grace of our God into sensuality and deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ.

⁵ Now I want to remind you, although you once fully knew it, that Jesus, who saved a people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed those who did not believe. ⁶ And the angels who did not stay within their own position of authority, but left their proper dwelling, he has kept in eternal chains under gloomy darkness until the judgment of the great day— ⁷ just as Sodom and Gomorrah and the surrounding cities, which likewise indulged in sexual immorality and pursued unnatural desire, serve as an example by undergoing a punishment of eternal fire.

(Turn to Jude in the ESV Bible to continue reading verses 8-16)

MESSAGE OUTLINE



This is what our pastoral team observed about the passage.

Big Idea: Beware of false teachers.

Key Question: Why must the church beware of false teachers?

1. False teachers blaspheme God's way. (vv. 5-10)
2. False teachers pursue their own gain. (vv. 11-13)
3. False teachers will experience God's justice. (vv. 14-16)

DISCUSSION



- Jude warns the church to beware of false teachers who deceive and distort the truth. In what ways have you seen the truth distorted within the world of Christianity? Some distortions and deceptions of the truth are obvious, but some are very subtle. What small departures from truth have tempted or fooled you?
- Jude's warning includes examples of others throughout history who blasphemed God's way (vv. 5-10). Reread verses 8-10. In what things does Jude say these blasphemers rely on for truth? What are some of the things our culture looks towards for truth?
- John 10:7-15 give us a picture of God's way, read it together as a group and talk about what God's way looks like and what you can do to remain in his truth.
- Jude 11-13 shares ways in which false teachers pursue their own gain. In what ways are you tempted to pursue your own gain? How can selfish pursuits lead to compromising the truth?
- In the first half of his letter, Jude gives multiple examples of the ways in which false teachers have experienced the wrath of God's judgement. This is a hard reality that we can be tempted to dismiss. In what ways have you downplayed the judgement of God? How can you balance sharing the truth of God's judgement with the good news of God's love?

LIFE APPLICATION



Jude's warning against false teachers is not just for the early church, it's for us too! As a group how can you hold each other accountable to pursuing the truth and not falling into the temptation of false teaching?

Jot your ideas below and send a picture to your group to remind everyone of your action steps this week.

PRAYER REQUESTS


