

DISCUSSION GUIDE

DISCUSSION GOAL



Discuss what it means to rightly know Jesus. Discuss the wrong ways we identify Jesus and how that leads us to wrong belief and action. Discuss the divinity of Jesus.

ICE BREAKER



When is a time that you made a snap judgement about a person, but were proven to be wrong? Or when is a time that has happened to you?

TEXT



Have a member of your group read the passage aloud.

John 6:14-21

¹⁴ When the people saw the sign that he had done, they said, “This is indeed the Prophet who is to come into the world!”

¹⁵ Perceiving then that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, Jesus withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

¹⁶ When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea, ¹⁷ got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. ¹⁸ The sea became rough because a strong wind was blowing. ¹⁹ When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and coming near the boat, and they were frightened. ²⁰ But he said to them, “It is I; do not be afraid.” ²¹ Then they were glad to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat was at the land to which they were going.

MESSAGE OUTLINE



This is what our pastoral team observed about the passage.

Big Idea: God’s people rightly know Jesus.

Key Question: How can you fail to rightly know Jesus?

1. When you engage him as only a great prophet. (v. 14)
2. When you exploit him as a political power. (v. 15)
3. When you erase him as the divine I AM. (vv. 16-21)

DISCUSSION



- In John 6:14-15, we see that the people who witnessed Jesus feeding the 5000 had wrong views about who Jesus is. How do they identify him and why do they ultimately fall short of who Jesus is? How can we rightly know Jesus?
- In verse 14, the crowd identifies Jesus as a prophet. Why is it a mistake to only relate to Jesus as a good teacher or spiritual guru? What could we miss if this was our only perspective?
- One of the ways the people in this week's passage misunderstood Jesus was by thinking that he would be an earthly king (v. 15). What benefits would we expect from an earthly ruler and how is Jesus still exploited for these things today? Are there any other ways we try to exploit Jesus for our own gain?
- Though the ESV translates Jesus in verse 20 as, "It is I!", the Greek says literally, "I AM!". Read Exodus 3:14. Discuss the implications of Jesus walking miles on water and then declaring himself to be God. How is this different than how the crowds identified him earlier?
- Reread verses 16-21. How can we be encouraged by Jesus' glory and divine power, even in the midst of troubles and fears? How does the truth that Jesus is God impact the confidence we can have in his ability to get us safely to our eternal home?

LIFE APPLICATION



In this passage, Jesus provides for both physical and emotional needs. Jesus is our provider but is so much more than just that - He is God himself. How can you worship God this week for who He is, and not just for what he gives you? How can you invite Jesus into all areas of your life?

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

PRAYER REQUESTS


