

# LIFE GROUP

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

### Embracing Truth: The Journey Begins June 2, 2024

#### Summary

Jesus is the only way for us to truly know God and the only way to truly know our identity.

#### Scripture

When the people saw that Moses was so long in coming down from the mountain, they gathered around Aaron and said, "Come, make us gods [or a god] who will go before us. As for this fellow Moses who brought us up out of Egypt, we don't know what has happened to him." Aaron answered them, "Take off the gold earrings that your wives, your sons and your daughters are wearing, and bring them to me." So all the people took off their earrings and brought them to Aaron. He took what they handed him and made it into an idol cast in the shape of a calf, fashioning it with a tool. Then they said, "These are your gods, [or 'This is your god'] Israel, who brought you up out of Egypt." When Aaron saw this, he built an altar in front of the calf and announced, "Tomorrow there will be a festival to the Lord." So the next day the people rose early and sacrificed burnt offerings and presented fellowship offerings. Afterward they sat down to eat and drink and got up to indulge in revelry. Exodus 32:1-6 (NIV)

"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Matthew 6:25-26 (NIV)

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him." Philip said, "Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us." Jesus answered: "Don't you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'?" John 14:6-9 (NIV)

The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. 2 Corinthians 4:4 (NIV)

The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross. Colossians 1:15-23 (NIV)

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The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance. 2 Peter 3:9 (NIV)

### Let's Start

Pastor Kyle talked about his interaction with his dentist this weekend. When was a time you were caught off guard by a spiritual question or conversation?

### Gratitude and Prayer

How has God worked in your life since we were together?

### Let's Talk

1. How does understanding our identity in Christ help us navigate challenging situations in life, such as decisions about jobs, relationships or faith?
2. What are some common false images of God that people hold today, and how can these images lead to misunderstandings about our identity and worship? Think of the "spiritual sage god," the "scorekeeping god," the "side-taking god," and the "scrooge god," and discuss the implications of these misconceptions.
3. In what ways does the image of Jesus, as described in Colossians 1:15-20, provide a more accurate understanding of God's nature?
4. How can we allow Scripture to correct our false images of God and help us see Him more clearly?
5. What does it mean to live out our identity by helping to reconcile others to God, and how can we do this in our daily lives?

### Let's Act

What can you do this week to be more confident in knowing who you are so that you can be more confident in knowing what God wants you to do in the situations in your life?

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