

4Ws The Gospel of John: Jesus, Savior and Judge

John 3:22-36
Dgroup's Curriculum: Leaders Copy

WORSHIP

Consider reading **Psalm 72** together, taking turns reading a verse at a time, or reading responsively with the leader reading a verse and the group responding with the next verse. You can discuss the Psalms you read and share what they mean to you.

WELCOME

Question: Jesus is. Fill in the blank with one attribute of Jesus which is most meaningful for you. Jesus is _____.

WORD

JOHN 3:35-36

³⁵ *"The Father loves the Son and has given all things into His hand. ³⁶ He who believes in the Son has eternal life; but he who does not obey the Son will not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him."*

There are many churches today that avoid talking about the wrath of God. This is despite the Bible clearly saying that the wrath of God is real. In fact, there are more Bible verses about the wrath of God than the love of God. Until we understand the wrath of God, we will not entirely understand salvation.

THE WRATH OF GOD

To understand the wrath of God, we need to connect it to the very nature of God. God is holy and because of this, He is eternally against sin. Holiness means to be completely set apart without sin, for it is in God's nature to never embrace or accept sin.

"The wrath of God is His eternal detestation of all unrighteousness... It is the holiness of God stirred into activity against all sin." – Arthur Pink

Sin violates God's law. The root of sin is self-will against the will of God. It is disobedience. God loves us, but because of His holiness, it is not acceptable to rebel against Him. God will never change His mind about sin, for He is holy.

God is righteous and He is against all unrighteousness because He is holy (Romans 1:18). A righteous God will not allow sin to go unpunished.

"God's holiness demands consequences for sin. We have broken His standard of holiness, and his holiness demands that He judge sin, not ignore or excuse it." –Bill Bright

God is just, showing why the wrath of God is not against the love of God. His love and holiness both demand justice. The wrath of God expresses His holiness. The day will come when God's justice and His wrath will be manifested.

If you have been a victim of injustice, do not take your own revenge. Leave room for the wrath of God, for vengeance is His (Romans 12:19).

God's wrath is revealed against all unrighteousness, and He allows people to experience the consequences of their sins (Romans 1:24, 26-28). If we insist on our own way, we will reap the consequences of our disobedience to Him. God wants us to repent from our sins and to follow Jesus as our Savior.

THE DAY OF JUDGMENT

Jesus' first coming to earth was to be our Savior, but the next time He comes, He will be our Judge (John 5:22-23, Revelation 20:11-14). On that day, Jesus will judge the world in righteousness (Acts 17:30-31). Jesus knows everything about each one of us. He will give us all a fair account in the book of life and the book of deeds (Revelation 20:12). Nothing is hidden from Him and everything will be revealed, He will judge even our secrets (Romans 2:16).

Stubbornness and unrepentance will bring wrath in the day of God's righteous judgment (Romans 2:5). Take the Word of God and our faith in Him seriously. Our behavior is a byproduct of our relationship with Jesus and the reality of His wrath and love.

BELIEVE AND BE A WITNESS

John the Baptist pointed people to Jesus. He was a great witness since he knew his role and assignment. He knew that no one can receive anything unless it comes from God (John 3:27-28). John knew who Jesus was, and this is why he was joyful whenever he connected people to Jesus (John 3:29).

To be a good witness, we must know our role. We must understand that everything we have is from God and once we embrace that, we become good witnesses because we know God has blessed us to bless others. John the Baptist knew his role; no comparison, no competition, no envy because each is called with a specific role in God's workmanship.

A good witness also wants to exalt Jesus. In John 3:30, John said that "He must increase, but I must decrease." Jesus must become more and more preeminent in our life. When people look at us, they should see Christ more and more. We cannot be a witness for Him if we are busy exalting ourselves. When it is all about us, we will fail miserably. He must increase, and we must decrease.

Lastly, to be a good witness we must obey in faith. To believe is to obey. Many of us think we believe, but if we do not obey, as far as God is concerned, we are not yet believing. And this is why it says in verse 36 that he who "does not obey" the Son will not see life, but the wrath of God abides on Him.

We have to understand that being a true follower of Jesus means we should know who He is, believe in Him, obey and point people to Him.

How are you in witnessing for Jesus? Do you know your specific role in God's workmanship? Do people see Jesus in your life by your words and deeds? Do you make Jesus more preeminent in your life than yourself? Are you pointing people to Jesus?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

(Leaders: Please choose questions that are appropriate to the level of spiritual maturity of your members)

1. **To Believe or Not.** According to John 3:35-36, what will happen to those who believe and to those who do not?
2. **I Believe.** What do you believe about the wrath of God? How would you stand before Him on Judgment Day?
3. **Be a Witness.** What motivates or hinders you to be a good witness for Jesus? How do you intend to be a better witness for Him?

WORK

Believe and Witness

Sooner or later you will encounter someone who does not believe that God exists. If the argument is this:

“If there is a God, why does evil exist and why does He allow evil to happen?”

How will you gracefully address the argument?

Write down your responses to this including your Bible references.

Close your time together in prayer.

WEEKLY PRAYER POINTS

I. Thanksgiving

- Worship God for who He is, what He has done, and what He will do in our lives

II. Country and the World

- Repentance and Salvation

III. Church

- That CCF Singapore Members would honor and love God and make disciples
- Core, Pastors, Leaders, and Families
- Ministries and Churches worldwide

IV. CCF Singapore Facilities

- CCF Singapore Center
- Equipments

V. Personal Concerns

- Deeper intimate relationship with God
- Righteous living
- Salvation of family and friends