



SDG Discussion Guide

John 1:1-18

December 23, 2018

What is your full name?

Have you ever had a nickname that you can share?

Where did your names come from or what do they mean?

Guideline: The following questions are meant to provide points of further interaction with the respective sermon text and surrounding passage. Feel free to forward the questions to your small group members ahead of the respective Sunday. Group members may also find these questions in print on that Sunday.

As you can, read aloud the passage in your group; read it aloud a second time but from a different Bible translation (eg, read from the Message after first reading from the ESV). Before you begin your discussion, pray and ask God to speak to your group. Notice, what may God be highlighting for your discussion and learning?

Now that you have read the text together, what points and questions arose? Spend plenty of time in your group to address *these*. Explore and see how God may steer the discussion. The following are further questions for interaction.

1. Why does this Gospel begin “In the beginning” rather than at Jesus’ birth?
2. What facts about “the Word” can you find in verses 1-5? Verses 10-18?
3. What is John the Baptist’s role as a witness?
4. Who or what fails to comprehend the light (vv 5, 10-11)? Why?
5. From the image of “receiving” someone (v 12)?, how would you explain what faith is about? What is the result of this type of faith?
6. How would someone “full of grace and truth” treat others?
7. From this passage, how can a person come to know God?
8. Are you keeping Jesus at the door? In certain rooms? Why do you think? Or have you given him the keys?
9. What does John’s emphasis on the pre-existent, creative Christ mean to you?

Spend some time in prayer. Thank God, and ask him to continue to speak to you from his word in this passage. Ask him to shine his light into any dark or shady spot in your life and bring restoration and life. Pause to hear anything the Lord may want to say to you or your group. Then continue to pray as you’re led. Go forth this week with his courage.

*These questions were adapted from *The Serendipity Bible for Groups* (Zondervan, 1998).