

The Case for Christ

Investigate the Case for Christ

Small Group Study Notes

Get to know you: Go around the room and have each person tell three things about themselves. Two of the facts should be true and one is made up. After each person presents their three pieces of information, the group votes on which ones were true and which one was false. Once everyone has taken a turn, talk about what made it easy or hard to determine the truth.

→ As we seek God and spiritual truth, there can be obstacles to our investigation, but truth is always worth seeking.

Discuss: C.S. Lewis said: “if Christianity is false, it is of zero importance. But if it is true, there is nothing more important in the entire universe.” Do you agree or disagree and why?

❖ It is easy to rest on the beliefs of others but we need to do our own investigation. Read 1 Peter 3:15-16, what are we to do?

❖ Our anchor passage today is Acts 8:27-35.

- Have you ever sensed the Holy Spirit prompting you to share the Gospel with someone? When was this and how did you respond?
- Pastor Ralph speculated that the Ethiopian man left Jerusalem disappointed. What do you think? Sometimes we tell people about our church but never point them to Christ. How might this be a mistake?
- How did God honor this man’s search for truth? How does knowing that God is working out the details for a person to come to Christ impact you?

❖ Read Mark 12:30. We are to love God with all our _____, _____, and _____. If we are going to love God with our minds we will need to ask the hard questions.

- What are some questions people are asking about God?
- When it comes to investigating God’s truth what are some sources you might use?
- Which one of Jesus’ disciples needed tangible evidence? What did he say? John 20:27. Can you relate to this disciple? How so?
- When the answer isn’t obvious and your faith is tested it’s good to remember the words of this father, Mark 9:24.

❖ Consider the obstacles that stand in the way of believing in Christ.

Obstacle	How to get unstuck
I can’t believe	Wholeheartedly seek God and the evidence for the claims of Christ.
I don’t want to believe	Weigh what you are hanging onto versus what you could gain by following Christ.
I don’t know what to believe	Read the Bible with an open mind, seeking to understand its central gospel message.

❖ What decision did the Ethiopian man make? Acts 8:36-39.

CLOSE: What are you most encouraged or challenged by in this lesson?

- Rate your current relationship with God. Why did you choose this and what action will you take?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

I don't believe God exists.

I just received Jesus' gift of forgiveness and leadership.

I'm completely secure in God's truth and understand what and why I believe concerning the Case for Christ.