

DOES IT MATTER?

BIG IDEA

Does it matter if we get Christianity right? In what ways? Who does it impact?

Does it really matter if we get the Christian beliefs right? Can't people just call themselves Christians no matter what they believe? Why be so picky?"

SCRIPTURE

Turn to Romans 1:16, read aloud and discuss. Romans 1:16 shows that the message of Jesus is the hope for the nations ... the greatest solution to the human problem. It can be summarized in a few words on how to access the power of God: "For I am not ashamed of the gospel (good news), because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes."

QUESTIONS

- Take a moment to review the "Jesus Loves Me" summary card on pages 3 and 4 of this study guide. This week we are learning that it really matters if we get our beliefs about Jesus right. Was there an idea in this message that surprised you, encouraged you, or that you're not sure you agree with?
- How do you personally access the power of God that brings salvation, restoration, hope and peace?
- What "picture perfect path" have you been on/are on that didn't end how you had imagined?
- What truths of God do you find more simple to comprehend than others?
- What does it mean to you that Jesus loves you? Can you tell a story of when you felt and knew this the most?

QUESTIONS (CONTINUED)

- Was there a time in your life when you didn't believe that Jesus loves you? What did that feel like?
- If somebody asked you what they must believe to be a Christian and experience eternal life, what would you tell them? (See *Romans Road* Scripture passages).
- How/when have you prayed, "God are you there? Show yourself to me?" Did you hear him answer? If so, how did he answer?

TAKEAWAY

Where is the power to solve your own deepest problems? This week, think about and pray for practical ways that God can help you with your problems.

REFERENCES

Romans Road Scriptures

Romans 3:10

Romans 3:23

Romans 5:8

Romans 5:12

Romans 6:23

Romans 10:9-11

Romans 10:13

JESUS LOVES ME

SUMMARY CARD

JESUS

Fully God and Fully Man

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 11:28

Matthew 16:15-16

John 1:1-4

LOVES

Came into our world on a rescue mission. He died on the cross for our sins and rose from the dead.

SCRIPTURE

Romans 5:7, 8

Romans 3:23

Romans 6:23

Romans 10:9-11

ME

To receive salvation in Jesus, I must own my mistakes and need for His help. Where sin has corrupted me, Jesus can restore me into the image of God.

SCRIPTURE

2 Corinthians 5:17

Romans 6:23

Ephesians 2: 8, 9

Romans 5:17

THIS I KNOW

I cannot earn salvation, but I must use my will to admit my need, acknowledge Jesus as God, believe in His work on the cross and receive His gift of salvation. After I receive salvation by faith, I express my belief in Jesus through baptism.

SCRIPTURE

Romans 1:16
Romans 10:9-11
Ephesians 2:8-9
Mark 16:16
Acts 8:12

FOR THE BIBLE TELLS ME SO

To fully experience my new identity in Christ and my freedom from sin, I choose to make God's Word the standard for all I will do and believe. The truths of the Bible are of life-or-death importance.

SCRIPTURE

2 Timothy 3:16
Romans 15:4
2 Peter 1:21
Psalm 19:7-11