



## Connect Discussion Guide

### 1/3/21 Message | Tyler Myers | Jude 1-4

*Urgent Issue: Living wisely in a world that thinks they know God.*

#### Key Scriptures:

*Jude, a servant of Jesus Christ and brother of James,*

*To those who are called, beloved in God the Father and kept for Jesus Christ:*

*May mercy, peace, and love be multiplied to you.*

*Beloved, although I was very eager to write to you about our common salvation, I found it necessary to write appealing to you to contend for the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints. For certain people have crept in unnoticed who long ago were designated for this condemnation, ungodly people, who pervert the grace of our God into sensuality and deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ.*

- Jude 1-4

#### Message Highlights:

- Trust: reliance on the integrity, strength, ability, surety, etc., of a person or thing; confidence.
- Over the past year, we have seen trust seemingly unravel at every almost level.
- We might wish that we were living in normal times, but the current climate demands an urgent, prayerful and intentional church to minister to a lost and destructive world.
- 2020 wasn't simply a year on the calendar with some crazy events...it was a microscope lens focused in on the overall state of where modern-day humanity stands in relationship with God and each other.
- We would love to be talking about the usual "New Year, New Me" and the adjustments that will keep our lives running in relatively healthy direction in most regular seasons. This isn't that type of year. What we really need this year is a deep look into our core problems and a total overhaul.
- The urgent issue: How can we live wisely in a world that thinks they know God?
- The solution: Servants of Jesus being the body of Christ multiplying God's nature – people walking in intimacy *with* the Lord rather than information *from* the Lord.
- Jude is a short, sharp and shaping letter that will remind us all that God's grace demands a whole-life response!

#### Recommended Activity:

- Happy New Year! Start the year off well by compiling a list of 21 things you are grateful for and thanking God for those gifts. Next, make a list of 21 things you are anticipating in the year 2021.

#### Conversation Starter:

- What are 3 things you are most grateful for as we head into 2021?

#### Discuss the Message:

1. Instead of waiting for "normal times" to return, how might we posture our hearts as we begin a new year?

2. Jude warns us of twisted truths that sound good but are in reality very dangerous. How do you guard your heart and mind from getting too wrapped up in the overabundance of sources that claim to bring truth? (See Romans 12:2).
3. In Jude 2, Jude greets his readers saying, “May mercy, peace, and love be multiplied to you.” What does it specifically look like for you to walk into this new year clothed with mercy, peace and love?
4. Since we acknowledge God as our ultimate and guiding truth, how can we elevate him in our own lives and in our circles of influence?
5. Compare and contrast an agenda-based relationship from a gospel centered relationship. Which of these two do you tend to gravitate toward?

**Pray:**

- *Father, while we are very ready to begin a new year with hopes for renewal and a fresh start, we first want to acknowledge your goodness and love for us. We thank you that in the most difficult circumstances and amidst some troubling times, you are steadfast and faithful. As tough as it has been, we are thankful that adversity exposes the ways in which we have settled for the world instead of fully pursuing real relationship with you. As we move into a new year, we ask that you would help us by your Spirit to walk in intimacy with your Son, that we might live wisely in a world that desperately needs you. Amen.*