

king's chapel

Community Group Discussion Guide

Week of May 28, 2017

This Week's Focus: Jesus Christ who lived a perfect life, suffered the wrath of God for our sin, died a criminal's death, and rose from the grave is graciously calling all people to turn from sin and follow him.

This Week's Text: John 21:19-25

"It [the Gospel According to John] is shallow enough for a child not to drown, yet deep enough for an elephant to swim." **St. Augustine**

Observations and Questions for Discussion:

- Why did John include chapter 21 (the epilogue) in his Gospel account?
- Look back at verses 18-19. After telling Peter what kind of death he will experience, what command does Jesus give Peter? How does Peter initially respond?
- What does it mean to follow Jesus? What distracts you from your call to follow Jesus - jealousy, feelings of inadequacy or fear, deep emotional or psychological wounds, self-sufficiency or pride?
- How does the gospel lift us out of our sinful distractions and provide contentment, hope, confidence, strength, and purpose in our calling?
- What is a disciple? Discuss each of the following three essential components of gospel-centered discipleship:
 - It is centered on the person of Jesus Christ.
 - It is centered on the work of Jesus Christ.
 - It is centered on the Word of God.
- Does the direction of your life evidence a desire to learn from the gospel, appropriate (apply) the gospel, and communicate the gospel to others?
- How is our Western culture of individualism antithetical to genuine gospel-centered discipleship? Discuss why community is vital to living as a disciple of Jesus Christ.
- Why did John feel the need to clarify Jesus' response to Peter's question?

- What evidence do we have of the perfect life, atoning death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, the Son of God? Why does John stress that he was the one who wrote this Gospel? Why is his testimony reliable? What is the purpose of his Gospel?
- How our study of the Gospel According to John impacted you? Discuss something you've learned, or how it has encouraged you, or challenged your thinking.