

DOING LIFE TOGETHER

9. Wallace challenges people to start small in becoming “case making Christians.” What might that look like for you? What could you do this week to investigate the truth claims of Christianity?

10. How might we as members of this growth group help one another prioritize Christ over all else? What is at stake if we don’t become more prepared to share the hope we have in Christ with others?

11. What are some ways you could bring up your hope in Christ in the flow of natural conversation with your nonbelieving friends?

Prayer Requests

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March 1, 2015

Sermon Notes

Cold Case Christianity with J. Warner Wallace 1 Peter 3:13-17

Read John Chapter 3

Jesus defines salvation for Nicodemus at the end of the passage by telling him that he must move from “belief that” to “belief in” if he ever hopes to be saved. So, what exactly does that mean?

The Lesson of the Vest:

The Lesson of the Badge:

The Lesson of the Gun:

What do I need to do with what I have heard today?

For more information, visit www.ColdCaseChristianity.com

GROWTH GROUP HOMEWORK

March 1, 2015

THINKING THINGS THROUGH

1. What are some things that you believe that don't always affect your behavior (most of us believe that high fat foods are bad for our long term health but we continue eating them or we believe that recycling is good for the environment but we don't take the time to recycle etc.)? Why don't our lives always match up with our beliefs?

2 Ask those who feel comfortable to share about a time when you realized a specific way that your life did not match your beliefs. How did you respond to this realization?

DIGGING DEEPER

3. One of the points that Wallace made in his book is that when he moved from belief that to belief in Christ, he became aware of both the true nature of Jesus and the true nature of his own fallen condition. How has an awareness of these two things changed the way you think and live?

4. How might investigating the evidence to support your beliefs help you grow in your personal walk with Christ?

READ 1 PETER 3:13-17.

5. Does sharing the gospel or defending the truth claims of Christianity seem like a daunting or intimidating task to you? Why or why not?

6. What are the prerequisites for being a "Christian case maker"? Why does Peter say we must "set apart Christ as holy" in our hearts if we hope to be "prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have"?

7. In his book Wallace compared being a Christian case maker to serving on a jury in a court case. He said, "Jurors don't need to be experts in the field under consideration; they simply need to be attentive, conscientious, and willing to get in the game." What might need to change in your life in order for you to be a better Christian case maker?

8. If someone asked, are you prepared to explain what you believe and why? How are we to make our defense (v. 15b)?