

Life Group Discussion Guide

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
WHAT HE KNEW
1 PETER 1:18-20
Stuart Jones - March 19, 2017

the
final week

INTRODUCTION

Even as a child Jesus knew who He was and that His mission on earth was to fulfill God's plan of saving the lost. When His parents accidentally left Him behind in Jerusalem, twelve-year-old Jesus said to them, "Why were you searching for me?... Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?" (Luke 2:49 NIV) Jesus knew better than anyone what His life would look like. After all, the days of His life had been written across the pages of the Old Testament. We owe Him a huge debt of gratitude for what He did for us.

DISCUSSION STARTER

1. Have you ever won an NCAA Tournament Bracket contest? What was your strategy and what did you win?
2. Answer the question Stuart asked in his sermon, "Have you ever tried to pull off a surprise party?" How did it go? Did you get stressed out about the details?

EVALUATE IT

1. Read 1 Peter 1:20. What does it reveal about Jesus that He would willingly come here knowing beforehand exactly what would occur?
2. Why is it important for us to know Jesus knew His fate before He came?
3. What can we learn from and how can we apply Jesus' example of being resolute in going about His mission?
4. Jesus came at just the right time, arrived in the right place, on the right day and His death was carried out in the right way. In addition to loving us more than we can imagine and being willing to come, what does His precise timing reveal about Him?

MAKE IT PERSONAL

1. What does it mean to you and how does it affect you emotionally and mentally to know that Jesus got up, left Heaven to come here and allowed us to kill Him for our benefit?
2. Who in your world needs you to sacrifice yourself for their benefit? Who could benefit from your willingly sacrificing your time, money or your convenience to invest in them?

ILLUSTRATION

Booker T. Washington was born a slave. Later freed, he headed the Tuskegee Institute and became a leader in education. In his autobiography, he writes: The most trying ordeal that I was forced to endure as a slave boy was the wearing of a flax shirt. In that portion of Virginia where I lived, it was common to use flax as part of the clothing for the slaves. That part of the flax from which our clothing was made was largely the refuse, which of course was the cheapest and roughest part. I can scarcely imagine any torture, except, perhaps, the pulling of a tooth, that is equal to that caused by putting on a new flax shirt for the first time. It is almost equal to the feeling that one would experience if he had a dozen or more chestnut burrs or a hundred small pin-points, in contact with his flesh... but I had no choice, I had to wear the flax shirt or none.

My brother John, who is several years older than I am, performed one of the most generous acts that I have ever heard of one slave relative doing for another. On several occasions when I was being forced to wear a new flax shirt, he generously agreed to put it on in my stead and wear it for several days, till it was "broken in."



Interested in joining or starting a Life Group?
Contact our Life Groups Minister.

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