

THE FUNDAMENTAL LIST

RECOVERING THE ESSENTIALS OF OUR FAITH

Fundamental #2

Introduction

Scripture Focus: Luke 5:17–26, Luke 7:36–50, Luke 23:32–34, Romans 5:6–8, Matthew 18:21–22

Opening

1. Warm-up Question:

What's the most awe-inspiring place you've ever been in person—something that didn't live up to the photos because it was so much better in real life?

2. Quick Review:

This week's message explored the idea that Jesus came to show us what God is really like. Rather than settling for secondhand descriptions, Jesus invites us to know the Father by knowing Him.

Group Scripture Reading

John 14:1–11

Take turns reading aloud through this passage. Encourage group members to slow down and really listen to the conversation between Jesus and His disciples on the night before His arrest.

Discussion Questions

1. Observations

- What stood out to you as you read this passage?
- What do you notice about the disciples' emotions and reactions here?
- Which disciple can you relate to more in this moment—Thomas, who wants clarity, or Philip, who wants proof?

2. Reflecting on Jesus' Words

- In verse 6, Jesus says: "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."
 - How do these three roles (way, truth, life) give us insight into who Jesus is?
 - What makes that statement hard for some people to accept today?
- Jesus says in verse 9: "Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father."
 - What does that mean practically?
 - How does it shape your view of God to think that He is exactly like Jesus?

3. Wrestling with the “Map” vs. the “Destination”

In the message, we heard: “Don’t confuse the map with the destination.”

— What are some examples of religious “maps” that people cling to instead of pursuing a relationship with Jesus?

— Have you ever mistaken something peripheral for something essential in your faith?

4. Application

— What would it look like this week to “watch Jesus and listen to Jesus” in order to better understand God?

— How can reading the Gospels help reshape an incomplete or inaccurate picture of God you may still carry?

NEXT STEP: BIBLE READING CHALLENGE

This week, read John 14–17 on your own. These chapters capture Jesus’ final words to His disciples—full of emotion, clarity, and promises about the Father, the Spirit, and the life to come.

Encourage group members to bring a verse or insight from this reading to discuss next week.

MEMORY VERSE (Optional)

“Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father.” – John 14:9b (NIV)

CLOSING PRAYER

Invite group members to share any prayer requests.

Pray specifically that each person in the group would see God more clearly by focusing on the life and words of Jesus.