



The Miracle | February 14, 2018

Discussion Guide

The Scoop

We spend a lot of time trying to make things make sense with our words. And yet, there are times when words fall short. Sometimes, we just need to experience it.

Key Verse

2 Corinthians 5:16-19 (NLT)

So we have stopped evaluating others from a human point of view. At one time we thought of Christ merely from a human point of view. How differently we know him now! This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun! And all of this is a gift from God, who brought us back to himself through Christ. And God has given us this task of reconciling people to him. For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, no longer counting people's sins against them. And he gave us this wonderful message of reconciliation.

Discussion

Words can tell a great story. They can describe the vividness of a situation or help us better understand ideas and concepts. Sometimes though, words are not enough. Sometimes we need to experience something.

1. What's one of your favorite analogy or saying? Why? What picture does it paint?
2. Are you a person who leans towards learning from experience or more from words?

In the U2 song *The Miracle*, they say, "we have language so we can't communicate." Words are powerful, but sometimes they cannot tell the whole story. Sometimes in order to learn something, we must experience it. They go on to sing, "I woke up the moment the miracle occurred." They seem to suggest that our language and preconceived notions often don't lead to life change, but experiencing something does.

3. Have you ever tried to learn how to do something by only reading about it or hearing about it?
4. Can you think of something in your life that you had to experience in order to learn it?

The power of experience is also a huge part of our spiritual lives. We can read about the reconciliation we have through Christ or tell others all about it, but most times we need to experience it. 2 Corinthians 5:16-19 talks about the difference between all of the prior knowledge and information about Jesus vs. the experience of walking with Him and then example God set by sending Jesus to live among us and ultimately die for us. Sometimes the best way to develop our relationship with God and share Him with others is to experience Him.

5. What are some ways that you can experience Jesus in your own spiritual life?
6. What are some ways you can help others experience Jesus rather than just telling people about Him?

What's Next?

God is so much more than words and head knowledge. Spending time thinking and reflecting on our experience with Him can not only draw us closer to Him, but offer great insights into sharing God's desire for a relationship with others. This week, as you live out your faith, share your experiences with others and help them know God and how He fits into their life.