

Questions for Reflection and Discussion

Do You Really Believe?

Getting Started

Give some examples of the various ways in which we use the word *believe*.

Background

John's gospel has been called the Gospel of Belief. John uses the word *believe* or its cognates 87 times, but not always with exactly the same meaning.

Digging In

1. **Read John 3:16.** How did God show his love for the world?
2. What is meant by the phrase *he gave his one and only Son*?
3. What do we need to do to have eternal life?
4. What do you think it means to believe in Christ?
5. **Read John 2:23-25.** John says that many people saw the miracles Jesus was doing and *believed in his name*. Do you think this is the same kind of belief that Jesus talked about in John 3:16? Why or why not?
6. How do verses 24-25 set the stage for Jesus' encounter with Nicodemus in ch. 3?
7. **Read John 3:17-21.** What is the condition of those who do not believe in Christ?
8. What are the consequences of not believing in Christ? (**Jn 3:36**)
9. What additional insights can we gain from **John 1:10-12** regarding what it means to believe in Christ?



Getting Personal

- What role does repentance have in becoming a genuine follower of Christ? (Acts 20:21)
- Do you believe in Christ? Explain.
- How has your belief in Christ influenced the way you live? (Acts 26:20)
- **Read Eph 2:8-10.** What are the roles of grace, faith and works in salvation?