



# HOW GOD LIGHTS OUR DARKNESS

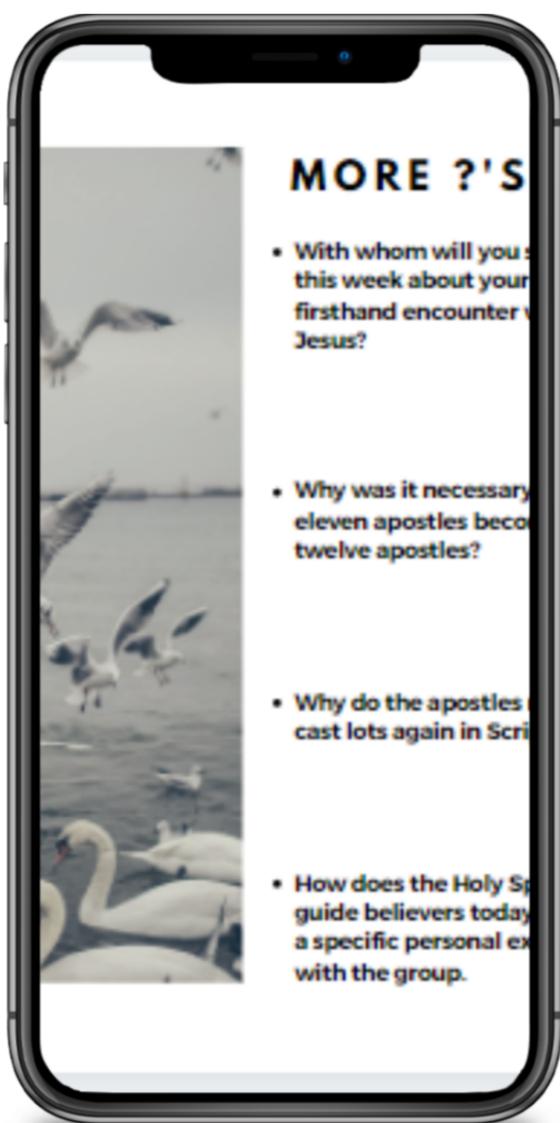
The Gospel of John  
SESSION 15

1. Watch this session's preceding sermon at [JesseCampbellMinistries.com](https://www.JesseCampbellMinistries.com).
2. Gather your group or family and open your Bibles to the very next verse.
3. Apply your life to the Bible together with this session's honest questions.
4. Cover the verses after these through the free daily devotions ([podcast](#)/[video](#)) and share them with the one you're discipling.

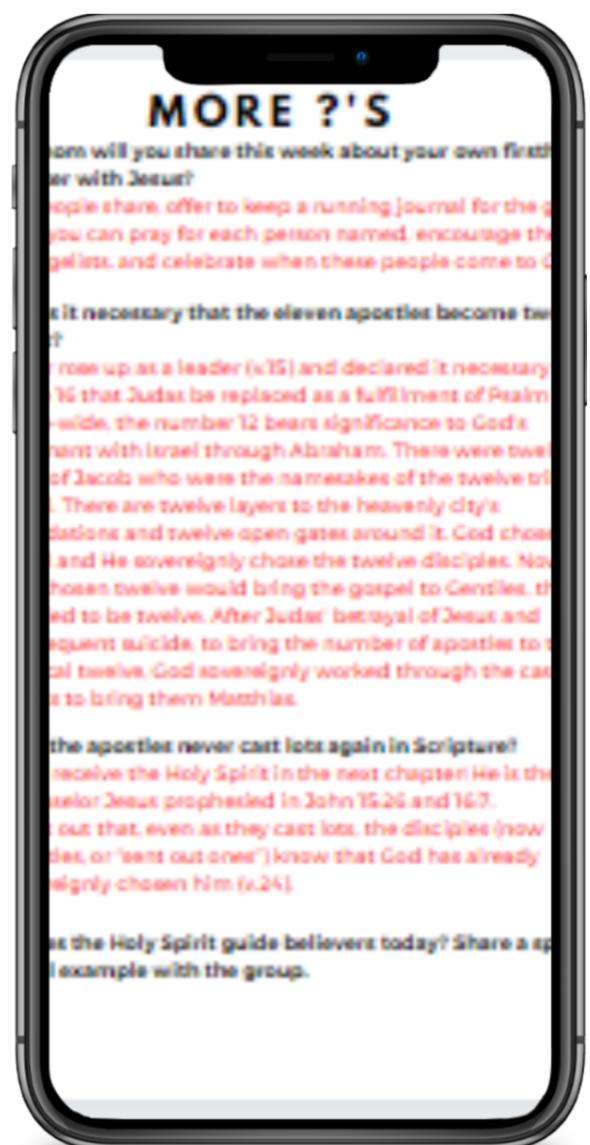
# LEADERS

HERE IS HOW YOU USE THIS GUIDE:

**What your group members see:**



**What you see:**



The **RED** text is coaching, direction, and suggested phrasing that only you see. If it's lame, you can blame it on me (Jesse). If it's awesome, it was your idea.

# GROUP/FAMILY SESSION 15

## JOHN 18:1-14

This week's sermon is in John 17:1-26

The Monday-Saturday Devotions cover John 18:15-19:1

At [www.JesseCampbellMinistries.com](http://www.JesseCampbellMinistries.com)

### ICE-BREAKER IDEA:

"You don't know what's going on behind the closed doors of your neighbors bigger and more beautiful house. You can never know what pain they endure - especially if their social media feed paints a rosy picture of prosperity. No one else truly knows what you endure, so you likewise could never know what is in someone else's cup. We each have been given our own cups to drink. You won't be judged on how you would have performed drinking the painful cup that has been given by God to your richer neighbor. You must drink your own.

### CONTEXT:

In John 17, Jesus prayed that not one of His chosen disciples would be lost. He prayed even for Judas through whom prophecy would be fulfilled. We haven't seen Judas since chapter 13 of John when he was inhabited by the devil to betray Jesus and bring a group of Roman soldiers and Jewish leaders to arrest Jesus in a spot Judas knew Jesus could be found. Remember as we read that Judas is still, as of the events of this passage, inhabited by Satan. Meanwhile, Peter is about to get fired up again, but this time with a sword in his hand.

### THE BIG IDEA OF THE TEXT:

Jesus took His disciples' places. He took our place too. We could never drink the cup of God's wrath He drank on our behalf, so we will drink deep the cups we've been given.



## BIBLICAL TEXT (CSB)

**John 18:1** After Jesus had said these things, he went out with his disciples across the Kidron Valley, where there was a garden, and he and his disciples went into it. **2** Judas, who betrayed him, also knew the place, because Jesus often met there with his disciples. **3** So Judas took a company of soldiers and some officials from the chief priests and the Pharisees and came there with lanterns, torches, and weapons. **4** Then Jesus, knowing everything that was about to happen to him, went out and said to them, “Who is it that you’re seeking?” **5** “Jesus of Nazareth,” they answered. “I am he,” Jesus told them. Judas, who betrayed him, was also standing with them. **6** When Jesus told them, “I am he,” they stepped back and fell to the ground. **7** Then he asked them again, “Who is it that you’re seeking?” “Jesus of Nazareth,” they said. **8** “I told you I am he,” Jesus replied. “So if you’re looking for me, let these men go.” **9** This was to fulfill the words he had said: “I have not lost one of those you have given me.” **10** Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it, struck the high priest’s servant, and cut off his right ear. (The servant’s name was Malchus.) **11** At that, Jesus said to Peter, “Put your sword away! Am I not to drink the cup the Father has given me?” **12** Then the company of soldiers, the commander, and the Jewish officials arrested Jesus and tied him up. **13** First they led him to Annas, since he was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, who was high priest that year. **14** Caiaphas was the one who had advised the Jews that it would be better for one man to die for the people.

## APPLYING OUR LIVES TO THE TEXT TOGETHER:

- This garden across the Kidron brook was familiar to the disciples. Describe the added layer of betrayal in Judas showing the crucifiers to this intimate and private place.
  - "Kidron" means "dark water." It was named for the darkening effect brought on by the draining of the blood of lambs sacrificed for Passover at the temple into the brook each year. Jesus, the ultimate sacrificial Lamb, crossed over the mixture of water and sacrificial blood between the temple and the Mount of Olives. A mixture of water and blood would flow from His side on the cross when it was pierced with a spear on the cross.
- Recalling that Judas was inhabited by Satan for the whole betrayal, re-read verse 6 and explain why it is not only significant, but awesome. Share how it affects you.
  - The One whose Spirit is in every Christian is greater than the sum of all evils. We win in the end, but we forget that sometimes.
- Satan fell to the ground at the sheer power of Jesus' unabashed proclamation, "I am he." This is the effect our God has on our enemy. What just fell to the ground in your life?
  - Remind your group of what Satan often causes us to forget: Jesus is greater.
- Describe Jesus' character based on verses 8 and 9. Tell a story of a time you saw someone else exhibit this kind of self-sacrificial Christ-likeness.
- Peter was wrong to try to stop God's plan for the crucifixion and the other Gospels tell us that Jesus replaced Malchus' ear (v.10). Retell the story from Malchus' perspective.
  - That the company of soldiers and priests arresting Jesus would witness yet another miracle as Jesus healed Malchus' ear and not call the whole thing off is telling: it is not just disbelief. It is hostility toward God.
- None of us could drink the cup of God's wrath consumed in full by Jesus. Say a prayer of thanks to Jesus for doing this. Then, share what is in the cup you've been given to drink.
  - Guard your group against the cup comparison game.

# THE TAKEAWAY

## SO WHAT, CHURCH?

JESUS AND JESUS ALONE COULD AND DID DRINK DEEP THE FULL CUP OF GOD'S WRATH ON THE CROSS. HE SAVED HIS DISCIPLES FROM IT AND HE SAVED US TOO. SO, WE'LL THANK HIM. INSTEAD OF TRYING TO STOP THE PAIN LIKE PETER, WE WILL DRINK DEEP THE CUPS WE HAVE BEEN GIVEN. SOME OF US WILL LOSE LOVED ONES. OTHERS WILL LOSE CAREERS. NONE OF US WILL LOSE AS MUCH AS JESUS GAVE ON THE CROSS. SO, DRINK DEEP THE CUP YOU HAVE BEEN GIVEN, CHRISTIAN. NO MATTER WHAT IS IN SOMEONE ELSE'S CUP, YOU MUST DRINK DEEP WHAT IS IN YOURS.

Keep a journal of prayers prayed and answered, ask for updates on the Non-Christians each Christian in the group is sharing the gospel with, and invite each member of the group whether Christian or Non-Christian to take their next steps in the discipleship process.

**[Here is a link to update your attendance.](#)**

POINT OUT THE LINKS AT THE BOTTOM TO YOUR GROUP. ENCOURAGE THEM TO USE THESE PODCASTS AS DISCIPLESHIP CONTENT FOR THEIR ONE-ON-ONE DISCIPLESHIP RELATIONSHIPS THROUGHOUT THE WEEK  
SUBSCRIBE TO JESSE CAMPBELL MINISTRIES YOUTUBE AND PODCAST

# FOR PARENTS:

How to Show Your Kids Jesus in This Passage:

All Scripture points to Jesus. Here is how you can take what God showed you in this text and disciple your child with it! You don't need a seminary degree and you don't need to be perfect. Just point to Jesus. He is perfect.



Jesus lovingly kept His disciples from being arrested with Him before He was taken to the cross. His disciple Peter tried to stop Jesus from being arrested by striking one of the soldiers with a sword, hitting the soldier's ear. Jesus healed the soldier and said, ""Put your sword away! Am I not to drink the cup the Father has given me (John 18:11)?" Jesus went to the cross and, in a sense, drank the cup of God's wrath. We all have our own cups to drink. Some people's are more difficult than others, but none is as painful as the full cup Jesus drank for us by going to the cross.

**TO COVER THE SUBSEQUENT SCRIPTURE IN DAILY DEVOTIONS:**

**SUBSCRIBE TO JESSE CAMPBELL MINISTRIES [YOUTUBE](#) AND [PODCAST](#)**

