

When Everyone Else Walks Away



To the leader:

Open your group in prayer, and remember that this is only a guide. Feel free to discuss each of the provided questions in the notes, or simply dive deeper into just one. Before you close with prayer, take a few minutes to look over the Three Essential Questions at the end of the page.

On Sunday, Pastor Dave continued in our Giving Up on God series by talking about how easy it is to give up when everyone walks away. We learned from a John 6 passage where people abandoned Jesus after a controversial teaching and Jesus asks His disciples if they are going to do the same. It's easy to follow Jesus when everyone else is. However, it's much harder to express your faith position when people are not only leaving the faith but also very much against you. How do you stay true to your commitment to God when everyone else is giving up on God? We learned that Jesus can be hard to follow but that He is our only hope. We were encouraged to take steps to follow Jesus alone with our lives and to follow what's true rather than what's trending.

"Quitting might relieve the tension but you miss out on the benefits of persevering."

- ◆ What was the last thing that you quit? What led to that decision?
- ◆ Was there a time where you resisted the urge to quit and received the benefit of persevering?

Let's review the points from the message Sunday:

1. Jesus can be hard to follow

- ◆ From what perspective and through what filter should you discern spiritual truths? In what way is failing to do so only adding to the difficulty of following Jesus?
- ◆ From what you have heard from those in your life and/or in our world today, what makes Jesus hard to follow?

2. Jesus is our only hope

- ◆ What are some areas through which people often attempt to find hope?
- ◆ Describe the hope that Jesus has given to you as a follower of Him.

Now what?

Follow Jesus alone **with** your life:

- Get back to church...consistently
- Get back to your Grace Group...consistently
- Get back to God's Word...daily
- ◆ Which one of the above statements are you going to make it a point to accomplish? What steps are you going to take to do so?
- ◆ Who is going to keep you accountable in this endeavor?

Three Essential Questions

1. **What did you hear?** *What point in this message was most impactful for you?*
2. **What do you think?** *How did this message challenge, change or affirm your thinking?*
3. **What will you do?** *How will you or your group put into practice what you've learned today?*