

## Community Group Discussion Guide

## Week of February 28, 2016

**This Week's Focus:** Jesus is the God-man who in his flesh made a once-for-all atonement for the sins of the world and offers forgiveness to anyone who takes cover under his blood.

This Week's Text: John 6:41-59

For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins. Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body have you prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, 'Behold, I have come to do your will, O God, as it is written of me in the scroll of the book.'" And every priest stands daily at his service, offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God, waiting from that time until his enemies should be made a footstool for his feet. For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified. **Hebrews 10:4-7, 11-14** 

## **Observations and Questions for Discussion:**

- What are your general impressions about this week's sermon?
- What did Jesus mean by his statement in verse 41? Why did the Jews grumble? Why do you
  think they misunderstood Jesus' metaphor?
- To whom is Jesus speaking in these verses, and where is he teaching them? Reference verse 59. What is significant about the fact that he is teaching in the synagogue?
- According to Jesus' words in verse 44, who is responsible for the work of salvation? What does Predestination mean? Reference Romans 8:28-29, 2 Timothy 1:9, and Ephesians 1:3-5. How is it that God's call doesn't violate our will but rather liberates our will?
- Discuss how God's sovereign grace should 1.) humble us, 2.) fill us with thankfulness, 3.) give us assurance, 4.) give us hope, and 5.) give God all the glory.

- According to verse 47 along with many other passages in John, God's gift of salvation is a
  universal offer (i.e., it is granted to whoever believes). Reference John 3:15-16, John 6:35, John
  6:37, John 6:58. Does this contradict God's effectual call/sovereign grace that Jesus revealed
  in verse 44?
- How did Jesus in his flesh, accomplish the work of salvation and give eternal life for all those who believe? Reference verses 51-58. If not the Lord's Supper, then what was Jesus pointing to when he spoke of eating his flesh and blood? How does the Passover lamb ultimately point to the atoning work of Jesus Christ?
- Discuss how Jesus' eating and drinking metaphor 1.) exposes our spiritual hunger, 2.) teaches us that when we partake of Christ, he becomes part of us, 3.) calls us to trust and believe in Jesus, and 4.) teaches us that our relationship with Jesus is personal.
- How does the passage encourage you to declare and demonstrate the gospel in your community and spheres of influence?