

We Are Christians!

Broadway Life Group Discussion Guide, January 29, 2012

Look Outward - Talk about who your group will contact this week and invite them to come to your next group meeting. Make contact assignments.

Open – What percentage of the U.S. population do you think are Christians, Muslims, and Atheists. Discuss.

Dig – Read the Scriptures and answer the questions.

1. What is it that we should not be ashamed of in 1 Peter 4:16?
2. In Acts 26:28, Paul was trying to _____ Agrippa to become a _____.
3. What were the traveling preachers telling the people of Antioch according to Acts 11:20?
4. What did many do when they heard the message according to Acts 11:21?
5. What did Barnabas encourage the new disciples to do according to Acts 11:23?
6. In Acts 11:26 Paul and Barnabas met with the _____ for a whole year and taught many people and the _____ were called _____ first in Antioch.

Reflect –

1. Discuss the following usages of the term Christian and how they compare to biblical usage: A) The Christian right B) Evangelical Christians C) A Christian nation D) All Christians should take the Lord's Supper.
2. What message do you think people need to hear and understand before they can become Christians?
3. What does the fact that Jesus is Lord and King have to do with becoming a Christian? Discuss.
4. Look at the following terms "Baptist, Methodist, Catholic, Presbyterian, Lutheran, Episcopalian, Mormon, Pentecostal, Eastern Orthodox, church of Christ." Are all of these just different kinds of Christians? Why or why not with respect to Scripture?
5. If someone says, "I am a Christian" is it right or wrong for us to question their conviction?
6. Compare what a person has to do to become a member of the church of Christ with what a person has to do to become a Christian.
7. Talk about things that are required in order to live as a faithful Christian, or as Acts 11:23 says, "remain true to the Lord."

8. Why is it (or is it not) a big deal if we use the term "Christian" in our daily conversations at home and in the community in its more modern cultural senses instead of in its more narrow, biblical sense?

1 Peter 4:15 If you suffer, it should not be as a murderer or thief or any other kind of criminal, or even as a meddler. **16** However, if you suffer as a Christian, do not be ashamed, but praise God that you bear that name.

Acts 26:28 Then Agrippa said to Paul, "Do you think that in such a short time you can persuade me to be a Christian?" **29** Paul replied, "Short time or long — I pray God that not only you but all who are listening to me today may become what I am, except for these chains."

Acts 11:19 Now those who had been scattered by the persecution in connection with Stephen traveled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus and Antioch, telling the message only to Jews. **20** Some of them, however, men from Cyprus and Cyrene, went to Antioch and began to speak to Greeks also, telling them the good news about the Lord Jesus. **21** The Lord's hand was with them, and a great number of people believed and turned to the Lord. **22** News of this reached the ears of the church at Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas to Antioch. **23** When he arrived and saw the evidence of the grace of God, he was glad and encouraged them all to remain true to the Lord with all their hearts. **24** He was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and faith, and a great number of people were brought to the Lord. **25** Then Barnabas went to Tarsus to look for Saul, **26** and when he found him, he brought him to Antioch. So for a whole year Barnabas and Saul met with the church and taught great numbers of people. The disciples were called Christians first at Antioch.