

Session 6

Big Idea:

A key to finding peace in an anxious world is doctrine over desire.

GROUP OPENER

Share a time when you have been surprised when you fact-checked something you thought was true and found it was not. How about when you were sure something was true and found out it was not?

How did that make you feel?

GROUP DISCUSSION

- Read <u>John 8:30-47</u> Twice out loud, in different versions of the Bible everyone listens.
- What are some significant observations you have about this text? What stood out? What didn't you like? What was confusing?
- What does this passage teach us about God? How does it change how I see God?
- What does this passage teach us about humanity/ourselves? How would it change how I treat others?
- What does this passage teach us about obedience?
 How should it affect the way I live?

December 17 WEEKEND

ACTION STEPS

I will statement . . .

Based on what God is teaching in this passage, what should I do? Reflect for a minute or two and develop an action statement. Put it in the form, "I Will _________". Make it concrete, simple, and achievable. Share it with the group.

As a Group

Often those who grow up in a home with some type of faith tradition can have a difficult time owning that faith themselves. It is easy to believe, that our family/group believes this or that and that is just who we are. In this passage, Jesus challenges this mindset with his Jewish listeners who believe because they live inside that community they are on good terms with God.

What is difficult or interesting about Jesus's quote "I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave to sin?"

Paul later expands on what Jesus is talking about in a letter to the Roman church have someone read Romans 5:12-21.

How does this apply to what Jesus was saying?

On your Own

To have a right standing with God is impossible on our own, it was a gift that was given to us through Jesus Christ. There is nothing we can do to earn it or deserve it. It is simply grace.

Spend some time reflecting on the grace we celebrate at Christmas.