

**JESUS SAID**

# JESUS IS THE DOOR

(JOHN 4:21-24)

## ICEBREAKER

Caramel apples or candy apples? Be ready to defend your position.

### *JESUS DESIRES RELATIONSHIP WITH US*

- Jesus demonstrates this by seeking out the women at the well, despite knowing everything she'd ever done. Jesus knows everything about you, even your thoughts, and still desires a relationship with you. How does that make you feel?
- Jesus said true worshippers do so "in Spirit and truth" illustrating that there is only one way to worship and it is through the Holy Spirit. How does this revelation change your perspective?
- Jesus revealed to the woman at the well that she was worshiping what she did not know. Have you ever found yourself trying to worship God when you didn't truly know Him?
- Jesus calls us to dwell with him and find purpose in relation with him because he cares for us. "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full." (John 10:10). What is the fullness of life you've found since coming to Christ?

### *JESUS IS THE DOOR: THE PURPOSE OF THE TABERNACLE*

- God's purpose of the tabernacle was a shadow to point us to the substance of Christ and answers the question "How can sinful humanity dwell with a holy God?" How did God dwell with sinful humanity before Jesus?
- Jesus said "Truly, truly, I am the door of the sheep" (John 10:7) and that "I know my own and my own know me." How does this reassure you of Christ's love?
- Hebrews 10:26 tells us that "there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins" because Jesus was "the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world". This is the substance of Christ. How have you let Christ's sacrifice cleanse you of your own sins and shame?

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## *WE ARE THE NEW TABERNACLE*

- 1 Cor 6:19 plainly states that the temple of the Holy Spirit, of God, is now our body since He dwells within us. How does this shift your view on walking in faith daily?
- Read Roman 8:16-17, which tells us that the Spirit himself bears witness that we are God's children, and if children, fellow heirs with Christ. How does this reality illuminate your position in and with Christ?

## ACT ON IT

### ENCOURAGE

Because Jesus serves “the door” that gives us access to God the Father, we can rejoice knowing that we live in unbroken relationship with Him!

Furthermore, because we are the new “tabernacle” of God, filled with the Holy Spirit, we can live with confidence that God is with us always, in every season, and in every circumstance. The tabernacle contains many elements/furnishings that God used to create a pattern for His people to worship Him. And Jesus, as the fulfillment of that pattern, now tells us that the new pattern is to worship God in “spirit and in truth”. We now worship Him as Spirit-filled believers, according to the truth of the resurrection of Christ!



# JESUS IS THE DOOR

(JOHN 4:21-24)

## ASK



Do you think of yourself as God's temple? How can you let this change your words and deeds this week?

## CHALLENGE



How can you glorify God as His temple this week?

Tell someone about Jesus, *the way, the truth and the life*. Invite them to walk through the same door you walked through, to drink the living water you drank.

As you reflect on the truth that Jesus is the door, rejoice in knowing that you have unlimited access to God the Father!! Pray, and ask God to connect you with at least one person this week, who hasn't entered through the "door" of Christ. Ask the Holy Spirit to give you the wisdom, and courage to share the invitation for them to come to Jesus

## PRAYER

Thank you, Jesus, for the gift of salvation. No other name, no other way, no other person holds that power. We praise and honor You for being the Door. Only the name of Jesus opens the door to God's holy presence. We believe that You are the Son of God and that You came to die for our sins so we can be made right again with the Father. We rejoice that we get to be in relationship with Our Father again. Thank you for making Your plan clear to us. Now, show us how we can make this truth known to those around us. Reign in our hearts, fill us with your love and your light, and use us to spread this Good News. In this world that needs Your direction more than ever, move us to where You need us to be. Lead us. Speak to us. In Your name we pray, amen!!

# THE GREAT INVITATION

(MATT 11:28-30)

## ICEBREAKER

If you could meet one person in the world, work side-by-side with some expert in your field, or spend all of your time with someone you really admire, who would it be?

## INTRODUCTION

- Do you recognize when you're tired? How do you know when you need rest?
- What is the difference between physical tiredness and soul tiredness?
- What is the rest you've found since you've come to Christ? If you haven't yet, where are you getting your rest from?

## COME TO ME (V. 28)

- This passage starts with a very beautiful, simple invitation from Jesus: Come to me. Why do you think something so simple can be so hard to accept? Do you or did you struggle to accept it? Why or why not?
- What do you think Jesus meant by the words "Come to me"? What does this look like in your life?
- Share a time where you had to carry a "heavy load" in the past. How did carrying this affect your daily life? Emotionally? Spiritually? Relationally?

- What do you choose to bring to Jesus and what do you leave out? Do you only come to Jesus for certain things? Why?

## TAKE MY YOKE UPON YOU (V. 29)

- What does your yoke look like right now? What are you yoked to?
- Us accepting Jesus' invitation implies submission by us to Him and ownership by Him. How does this go against what culture says? How is this restful?
- Jesus' invitation to take His yoke upon us is an invitation to intimacy and partnership. He's describing a yoking together of Him and you, a stronger one is leading, and is placed with a smaller, less experienced one to train. How does that make you feel, knowing Jesus is there to lead and instruct you while carrying the bulk of the weight?
- Share a time in your life where you've been unequally yoked in a constructive manner, either as the stronger one or the weaker one. What did you learn?

# THE GREAT INVITATION

(MATT 11:28-30)

- Paul said in 2 Corinthians 6:14 – “Do not be Unequally Yoked with unbelievers.” But there is another time where the two are yoked together, and it’s about training and teaching. Are there some unhealthy yokes you need to set aside? What would it look like to allow Jesus to carry the burden instead? Why have you chosen this way instead of others?

## ***LEARN FROM ME (V. 29-30)***

- Describe your relationship with Jesus. What are you learning from Him?
- What burdens have you learned to lay down from Jesus?
- We all need a plan to turn off the junk in our lives and just get yoked up with Jesus. What does that look like for you?
- If we’re not careful, we get “yoked up” with people and ideas and belief systems that are not moving us closer to Jesus, to be MORE like Him. And we aren’t “LEARNING FROM HIM,” but rather learning what our culture teaches and believes. How have you seen this in your life?

- If you’re new to learning from Jesus, what do you think He wants to teach you?

## ACT ON IT

### ENCOURAGE

Jesus, our Lord and Savior, has given us the best invitation of all!



It’s so easy and simple, yet it can be one of the hardest invitations to accept. When we come to Jesus, we get the promise of rest. No matter what we’re dealing with, He promises us rest for our souls. Jesus invites us to an intimacy and closeness that is meant to strengthen and grow us. Jesus knows the burdens that we try to carry on our own and offers us the greatest invitation - set aside our heavy yoke of sin and pick up His yoke. Not only that, He invites us to learn from Him as well. Instead of medicating in worldly ways, He wants us to learn the truth that only comes from being led by and walking with Jesus. If your soul is heavy, stop trying to do it alone and let Jesus carry the weight and get you some soul rest.

# THE GREAT INVITATION

(MATT 11:28-30)

## ASK

Are you tired? Is your soul heavy?  
What burdens are you carrying?  
How are you dealing with that? How  
does Jesus want to help with that? What  
keeps you from giving it to the Lord? If  
you gave him the chance, what do you  
think Jesus wants to teach you?

## CHALLENGE

Set aside some time this week  
to do these four things:

1. Surrender your whole life to Jesus Christ as your Lord and Master and King forever!
2. Choose to come away with Jesus every day, week, and month! Study your Bible, pray (not just for needs), and spend time with Jesus!
3. Belong to His Family – Attend Church, Join a Small Group, Obey God.
4. Repent! In order to take His yoke, you have to remove yours!

## PRAYER

Lord, we thank You for the invitation to come to You. Thank You that we can get true rest by getting closer to You. Thank You for being the true source of peace in our hearts, souls, and minds. Give us the strength to leave what's making us tired at Your feet, trusting that You are in control. What we're carrying is heavy, but Your yoke is light. Help us desire to seek You for rest and help us do it in a way that draws us closer to You so we can lean into You and learn from You. As we take Your yoke, teach us what that means and convict us to follow. And for those who have yet to come to You, show up in their lives like never before. Continue to speak to their hearts and open their eyes to the truth, that the invitation to come to You exists for everyone. Fill us with Your peace and bring us the rest that only You can bring as we continue to put our trust in You. Amen.