

Why should I consider Jesus? I'm not sure God even exists. Isn't the world a better place without religion? I can't see myself becoming a Christian.

Why I'm a Christian: God

1. Catch Up On Life:

This is when we update each other on the things that Jesus has been up to in our lives since we last saw each other. As church family, we care about each other's lives: what we're celebrating, what we're mourning, what decisions we are praying through, and everything in between. (1 Thessalonians 2:8, Romans 12:10 and 15)

- Celebrate the wins - where have you seen Jesus working in the last week (shaping you to be more like Himself or working in the lives of those that He's put around you)?

What (if any) big life updates do you need to catch us up on (positive or negative)?

Pray: Take every opportunity to pray and thank God for the good He's doing in our lives, and ask for help and healing anywhere there is pain.

2. Review the Mission:

Just like God the Father sent Jesus on a mission of reconciliation for us, Jesus sends us out as ambassadors of His reconciliation. We are called to make disciples wherever we go. (John 20:21 and 2 Corinthians 5:18-20)

People:

- Reactive - Who in your life (family, coworkers, etc.) can we join you in praying for? Who has God put around you that is showing spiritual interest? Who is hurting and could use some love from our group?
- Proactive - Who are the people we are intentionally living on mission with (neighbors, STC partner organizations, or a specific demographic in Columbia)? What are our upcoming plans to love, serve, and build relationships with this group?

Plan:

- Are there any rhythms already planned, or an extra rhythm we could plan to create a way for these friends to connect with our group?

Pray: Prayer is the fuel of God's mission. Let's pray for our people by name; pray for their needs, and opportunities to have spiritual conversations that help them take next steps toward Jesus.

3. Scripture & Sermon Discussion:

God uses His Word to reveal Himself to us, equip us to live the good life He's designed for us, show us our sin, and strengthen us as we follow Him. We preach the Word on Sundays and apply it as a LifeGroup throughout the week. (2 Timothy 3:16-17, Colossians 1:9-12 and James 1:22-25)

i. Scripture Discussion

Primary Passages: Romans 1:16-20, 25

Read **Romans 1:16-20,25** out loud. Spend some time silently reflecting and journaling the following questions as a LifeGroup.

- What stands out from the passage?
- What does this passage reveal to us about God?
- What does this passage reveal to us about people?

Share with one another what you thought, reflected, and wrote about.

ii. Sermon Discussion

In this series, we want to explore the questions and doubts people have with Christianity. What have been your doubts? What doubts have you heard from others?

As a refresher from this week's sermon, watch one of the top 3 videos at WhyImAChristian.com right now or on this week's sermon page under Recommended Resources.

In the sermon we asked, "Which worldview is the best explanation of the evidence provided?" How would you differentiate between evidence and proof? How would you describe the role that evidence plays in the Christian faith?

In the sermon, we gave four arguments for God's existence. Which of them was the most compelling to you? Why? How would you explain this argument in your own words?

- Cosmological - an argument from something rather than nothing
 - Everything comes from something. Cause precedes effect.
 - The universe exists.
 - Some outside force must have caused the universe to exist.
- Teleological - an argument from design
 - The world has a meticulous design.
 - Anything with a design is made by a designer.
 - Therefore, the universe has a designer.
- Moral - an argument from ought
 - There is a universal moral law.
 - If there is a universal moral law, there is a moral law-giver.
- Existential - an argument from desire
 - There is a spiritual desire within us.
 - If a spiritual desire exists, there must be something to fulfill it.

What questions did the sermon leave you with? If you have a question, text "DOWNTOWN" followed by your question to 91011. In the final week of this series, we'll choose a few of the texts we've received to discuss and answer.

To learn more on this topic, go to WhyImAChristian.com

4. Engage the Heart:

Jesus calls us to walk in the light, confessing our sins to God and each other. God's Spirit works through confession and community to lead us to repentance. (Romans 3:23-24, James 5:16 and 1 John 1:5-10)

- Two weeks ago, we began working through resources on FollowingJesusTogether.com. How's that been going? What has God been teaching you? What obstacles have you encountered? How can LifeGroup help?
- What are you struggling to trust Jesus with this week? How can you give Him control of it? (As people confess sin, make sure to remind one another of the good news Jesus offers. If need be, use the worksheet "Go-to Verses for Gospel Fluency" at FollowingJesusTogether.com/confession)

Pray: James tells us that a community that regularly confesses sin and prays for each other will see a lot of healing. Confess your sins to God in prayer and pray for each other. **Pray** for the Spirit to work in you as you take steps of repentance.