

Small Group Discussion Guide

“At the Movies” (pt. 2) – 9/21/2014

Scripture: John 10:1-10

Bottom Line: Salvation is a sure and secure promise from Jesus.

INTRODUCTION: In the movie “The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe” why is the wardrobe important? If you said that the wardrobe was the way the children entered into Narnia, then you would be right. But the wardrobe is more than that. If you know anything about the other Narnia stories, the Lion Aslan is not just a normal Lion. He is in fact Jesus Christ who goes by a different name in that world. He also was responsible for bringing the children to Narnia which means that he placed the wardrobe where it was and led the children to it. Today we will see how God, who desires us to know him personally, has sent Jesus into the world to be the door through which we enter salvation.

UNPACKING THE GOSPEL IN THE BIBLE:

Read John 10:1-6

According to these 6 verses, what does Jesus say about how a person is saved?

- God opens the way for salvation and calls us to him.
- We hear his voice and then come to him.
- He leads us for the rest of our lives.

Read John 10:7-10

It's important to know that Jesus is using an analogy in this passage (Jn. 10:1-10). Like all analogies, they break down if you take them in a different direction than where the author intends to go. For example, Jesus is clearly talking about salvation. When he says that people will “come in and go out and find pasture”, is he saying that people will go in and come out of salvation? No, this is not the direction Jesus wants the analogy to go. Jesus is

making two main points: he is the door and he is the Shepherd. Everything else in this passage is related to these two truths.

What does Jesus mean when he said that “I am the door of the sheep?”

- He is essentially saying that he is the only way to salvation. Everyone else is a fraud. This includes all other religions.

UNDERSTANDING HOW THE GOSPEL APPLIES TO MY LIFE:

What does it mean to be saved?

- It means to be reconciled to a relationship with God, not based on your works but based on the work of Jesus on your behalf. Jesus earned your eternal forgiveness on the cross.

What is salvation not?

- It is not just an ecstatic feeling or experience.
- It is not a promise of health, wealth, or happiness all the time.
- It is not dying, and then having peaceful nothingness.
- It is not a term that is old fashioned and needs to be tossed.
- It is not turning into a fat angel that plays on the clouds.
- It is not an excuse to be able to do whatever you want.

What makes your salvation sure?

- Your salvation is a sure promise because of Jesus' death and resurrection. When he said “It is finished”, he was referring to the work that needed to be done in order for you to be eternally forgiven. Your salvation does not rest on your performance ever! It rests on Jesus' performance for you, and his work is finished.

What is salvation freedom from?

- Our past sins, hurts, regrets, and shame

What is salvation freedom for?

- A future with meaning, love, joy, adventure, peace.

LIVING OUT THE GOSPEL IN MY EVERYDAY LIFE:

How can you live with a greater awareness of your eternal salvation daily?