



## Leader Guide

# Eternal Life

*January 29, 2023*

**Main Passage:** John 3:16; Colossians 3:1-4; John 10:24-30

## Theological Theme

Whoever believes in Jesus receives salvation and eternal life with Him. The promise of a secure eternity in heaven provides motivation to share with others how they too can know Jesus and be certain where they will spend eternity.

**Introduction:** Today is the conclusion of our study "What is the Gospel?"

- ❓ Take time to share about prayer experiences over this month.
- ❓ Share about conversations you've had with lost friends over this month.

## 1. Eternal Promise (John 3:16-21)

John 3:16 ends with the promise of eternal life. Anyone who places his or her faith in Jesus is promised eternal life. Some translations use the term everlasting life. Either one stresses the length and duration of the love God has for us. His love for us will never change and it will last for eternity. In a world where everything has a limited shelf life or an expiration date, God's love stands forever.

- ❓ Why is it important to recognize that each person must choose what to do about Jesus?
- ❓ What does it mean to love the darkness? What are some ways you see this taking place in the world? Where are you tempted to love the darkness over the light of Jesus?
- ❓ Application: Why is important to know and cling to the promise of eternity with Jesus?

## 2. Eternal Focus (Colossians 3:1-4)

Paul wrote to believers like us who had been raised with Christ by placing their faith in Him. Once you have been raised with Christ you are empowered to live a righteous life that reflects your faith and looks like Jesus. No longer should your goal be to fit in with the world and like those who are still lost. Our goal is to be like Jesus. That means living differently than the world and making choices that reflect the truth of our faith.

- ❓ Which do you struggle with the most, knowing what to do for righteous living or knowing how to do it?
- ❓ How does it change your perspective of Jesus when you recognize His complete authority?
- ❓ Application: What do you need to do so your mind is set on things above and Jesus is your life?

### 3. Eternal Security (John 10:24-30)

The reward for the sheep who know and respond to the Good Shepherd is eternal life. Jesus promised that those who are among His flock will receive eternal life and never perish. This is not about physical death but refers to where we will reside for eternity. Though our physical lives may be destroyed through sickness, disease, or anything else, our souls will be safe forever with Christ.

- ❓ When have you struggled to accept the truth and been tempted to blame someone or something else?
- ❓ How well would you say you know and listen to Jesus's voice? What are some ways we grow in this?
- ❓ Write down the names of those you have been praying for. Plan a social gathering to celebrate what Jesus has done for people in your group. Invite your friends and neighbors!

### Questions to Guide Your Group's Discussion

1. What does this passage say?
2. What did this passage mean to its original audience?
3. What does this passage tell us about God?
4. What does this passage tell us about man?
5. What does this passage demand of me?
6. How does this passage change the way I relate to people? (*How can you use this information this week at work or with friends and neighbors?*)
7. How does this passage prompt me to pray to God?

\*Adapted from Seven Arrows by Matt Rogers pastor of The Church at Cherrydale, Greenville, SC

### Here's How to Become a Christ-Follower:

*Read the following verses and ask after each one: "What does this say to me?"*

- **All have sinned:** Romans 3:23 & 1 John 1:8
- **The wages of sin:** Romans 6:23 & John 3:18
- **But while we were sinners, salvation was provided:** Romans 5:8
- **Become a Christ-follower:** Romans 10:9-10 Confess and Believe

### Accepting Christ is Just the Beginning:

Next Steps:

- Publicly profess your faith by being baptized (Matthew 10:32-33; Luke 3:21; Romans 6:4).
- Join a church which follows the Bible, where you can grow in your faith through prayer, Bible study and fellowship with other Christians.
- Get involved in groups for encouragement and accountability.
- Begin a daily personal worship experience with God where you study the Bible and pray.
- Share with others what Jesus has done for you. Tell your story (Romans 10:14; Matthew 28:19-20).
- Begin to live for God (Romans 12:1-2, 9-18; James 1:19-27).