



Discussion Guide

August 5, 2018

Contrast: See the Love

Introduction: Read 2 Corinthians 11: 1-4

In 2nd Corinthians 11:1-4, Paul warns the Corinthian believers to be on guard against other beliefs or ideas from creeping into their faith. From the looks of it, this was already beginning to happen. Paul's desire for them was to hold true to the genuine Jesus and the faith they had first accepted. We too must stay on guard and keep our faith fresh.

Discussion Questions:

1. Parents will do a lot to protect their kids and care for them. Share a moment from your past where a parent or someone in authority did something to protect you that you didn't understand or appreciate at the time.
2. Paul says at the start of chapter 11 that he is jealous for the church of Corinth. He wants to present them to God pure and faultless and doesn't want to see them led astray. What are some of the ways that Matt talked about where we are susceptible to getting knocked off the course of our faith?
3. Sometimes we treat Jesus like an action figure that we can mix and match different tools and accessories. The danger is that we begin to add things that aren't true to the gospel or subtract things that are central to who Jesus is. What are some areas where you have allowed the gospel to be morphed or distorted in your life? How did you manage to get a healthier perspective or get back on track?

4. Everyone has a story to tell. Hearing someone's story creates a deeper understanding and a stronger friendship. For a believer, sharing the story of your faith works in the same way, whether it is about first meeting Jesus, or where he is currently at work in your life. The amazing thing that occurs is you deepen someone's interaction with Jesus too. Go around the group and have a few people share a part of their faith story.

5. Learning each other's stories and building a deeper friendship with your group is great, but something that is central to our faith is sharing our story with those outside our circle. Share who in your life you think God is calling you to share the love of Jesus with. How are you hoping to do that? What do you think that will look like?

Moving Forward:

Close your time in prayer by praying for the people your group is going to be trying to grow a deeper friendship with this week and beyond. Pray that God would work through you all to share the story of Jesus with the world around you. Also pray that God would use your conversations with friends to keep you focused on Jesus and centered on him.