

# THAT YOU MAY KNOW

*Unless You Believe*  
John 8:21-30  
July 17, 2022

"...I told you that you would die in your sins, for unless you believe that I am he you will die in your sins." - John 8:24

## I. FOUR WAYS TO REJECT JESUS

1. Indifference/Self Righteousness
  - Jesus informs the crowd that he is leaving, and where he goes they cannot follow. They respond by pursuing an inconsequential line of reasoning (Vs. 21; Ps. 2:1-6; Gal. 6:7-8).
2. Worldliness
  - To live for Jesus is to live for a different purpose, a different goal, a different world (Vs. 23; Rom. 12:1-2; Col. 3:1-4; James 4:4-5).
3. Unbelief
  - Belief in Jesus is belief in God. Jesus makes a direct claim to divinity with his statement "Unless you believe that I am [he]".
  - Believing in Jesus is the key. Leaning into him, placing your trust in him. Lacking belief is to reject our only hope of salvation (Vs. 24; John 3:15-18, 36, 6:40; Acts 16:31; Rom. 10:9-10; Gal. 3:26; Phil. 3:8-11; 2 Thess. 2:9-12; 1 John 5:10-13).
4. Willful Ignorance
  - Jesus had demonstrated clearly his divinity and his claim to be the long-awaited Messiah. Many of the Jewish leaders and others continued to reject him, claiming ignorance (Vss. 25-27; Matt. 11:23-24, 15:13-14, 23:16-26; Luke 10:13-14).

## II. ONE WAY TO BE SAVED

- The cross reveals to us the wisdom of God. Once again, Jesus reminds us that "I am he." Those who look to the cross find faith in Jesus (Vss. 28-30; John 12:23-33).
- "Many believed in Jesus," although we will find very soon that much of that belief was short-lived and superficial (John 8:31-36).

**KNOW:** Faith in Jesus saves us. Lack of faith leads to dying in one's sins.

**DO:** Place your faith in Jesus.

### Suggested Reading:

*The Heart of the Gospel* by Robert E. Coleman (LifePoint Library #269.2)

*What is the Gospel?* by Greg Gilbert (LifePoint Library #234 GIL)

*All of Grace* by C.H. Spurgeon (LifePoint Library #234 SPU)

### Questions/Discovery Points for Life Groups/Families

#### **Please Read John 8:21-30**

1. What is the general idea set forth by Jesus in this narrative?
2. What conclusions can we draw from his words?
3. Why, do you think, do so many still wonder who Jesus is after all that he has shown them?
4. What does Jesus mean when he says that some in the crowd are "of this world"?
5. How should we respond to this teaching? What does it mean for us?
6. What action steps will you take in response to Jesus' words?