



# LIFEGROUPS

Series: The Revealing of God

Scripture: John 1:35-51

Date: Dec. 17 & 18, 2016

## —[ LET'S START ]—

- What is the best part of your day, and why do you like it so much?

## —[ LET'S TALK ]—

1. What is a "Divine Staircase"? How have people (historically, or in modern times) tried to reach this on their own?
2. How do we access the true "Divine Staircase"? In other words, how do we ascend on Jesus to the Father in Heaven?
3. For whose sake did Jesus come to earth? Who were the people in the gospels that ran to Jesus, and who wanted to get rid of Him?
4. Have you ever been in a place in your life where you were trying to reach God/heaven on your own terms?
  - Why is this problematic?
  - What were some of the Biblical examples Dale gave to illustrate this point?
5. Read Mark 8:31-38 and discuss surrendering to Christ as the one way to God.
  - Why does Peter rebuke Jesus for saying He must die? How does Jesus respond?
  - How did Peter (and the other disciples) think they were going to reach God through Jesus? What were those "human concerns"?
  - Why is surrender necessary in order to follow Christ?

## —[ LET'S ACT ]—

- Research a different worldview. Every person—whether they are atheist, Buddhist, Muslim, or anything else—wants to reach that "Divine Staircase." Spend an hour or two (or more!) researching what another worldview thinks is the way to access God, or the way to reach heaven. This will be a great way for you to be equipped to have conversations with other people, and will help you see the uniqueness of your faith.

—[ **SERMON REVIEW** ]—

- When it comes to our relationship with God, humans have a tendency to make religions. The danger with religion is that it usually starts with me/us; it is our attempt to connect with a supreme deity based on our imaginations and ideas of who and what that deity is like.
- But the salvation of mankind would not come from anything humankind invented (e.g. religion)! It would come from something only God could do.
- In John 1, when Jesus says to Nathaniel and the others listening that they will see the angels ascending and descending on the Son of Man, Jesus is declaring that He alone is the connection between heaven and earth—He alone is the means to God.
- Jesus came to anyone who had come to the end of themselves, who tried building ladders to heaven only to have the collapse.

—[ **NOTES** ]—

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