



Beautiful Fences: Week 3 — Jesus Still Saves

CONNECT: When was a time you tried to build or make something, but the end product wasn't as expected? (Feel free to look up some Pinterest Fails if you need a laugh!)

GROW:

1. What do you think of when you hear the name Jesus? What emotions does His name evoke? What do you think the typical non-believer thinks when they hear the name Jesus?
2. This *Beautiful Fences* series has had a progression over the last three weeks:
"There is a God" → "He wrote a book" → "and He sent His Son"
Scott mentioned that this progression may seem increasingly uncomfortable. Why is that? What do you think makes people (or you personally) uncomfortable about these truths?
3. **Read Luke 21:12-15.** Jesus is pretty clear that His followers will face persecution on account of His name. Do you think this is still true of Jesus followers today? Have you faced opposition or persecution because of the name of Jesus? How so?
4. Scott gave three reasons as to why the name of Jesus is problematic:
We don't like being told we need saving.
 - Why do we struggle with receiving help? How does this get in the way of Jesus saving us?
 - **Read John 3:16.** How does the fact that you cannot "save yourself" settle with you?*We don't like the exclusivity of Jesus' claim.*
 - **Read John 14:6.** Why is exclusivity hard to comprehend or promote?*Jesus claims to have ALL authority.*
 - **Read Matthew 28:18-20.** If Jesus has authority over all things, what are you still trying to claim authority over in your own life? What do you need to let go of so Jesus can truly have all authority in your life?
5. **Read Matthew 27:26-31.**
 - Not only does Jesus save us, but He went through incredible pain and suffering to do so. How should this affect the way we receive and live in His salvation?

PRAY: Encourage your group to say a prayer of repentance. The word *repent* means to stop going away from God and His truth and turn 180 degrees back to Him. Repent of the sin present in your life and the areas where you have not fully given God authority.

NEXT: Believers: Take the opportunity this week to talk to a non-believer about the name of Jesus. Be okay with the conversation being uncomfortable, and be graceful in your interaction. Non-believers: Wrestle with the truth of Jesus going to the cross to save YOU. If this is true, then what will you do in response?