

Chasing Shades

Leader Guide | Week 4

Key Things You Heard

- Psychology Today says about 3/4 of us believe in an afterlife and the other 25% either don't believe or don't know.
- Concerning the afterlife, the question that matters is, "what do you believe?" And "why do you believe that?"
- I see a man paying a debt for me on a Roman cross so that I can be free. I see a dead body coming to life again to prove to me that he can do the same for me.

Pray

Dear Lord, we are so grateful for the resurrection of Jesus. Because of it we have hope of eternal life with you. Be with us today as we talk about the afterlife, let it not be a conversation that incites fear, but instead draws us into a deeper relationship with you. In Jesus' name, amen.

Tweetable Moments

"My past is redeemed, my present makes sense, my future is secure." - Avery Willis

"When it comes to the afterlife, Billy Joel is wrong. Its not about whether or not you're in someone's heart but whether or not Jesus is in their heart!"

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Questions for Conversation

Icebreaker: Jerry is a Billy Joel fan. What was your favorite album that came out the year that you graduated high school?

- Read **Ecclesiastes 9:5-6**. Death is an inescapable destiny for mankind. What do you believe happens when a person passes away? Where did you develop this belief? (Family, the Church, the Bible)
- Jerry said, “Someday, I will open my eyes in heaven...” On a scale of 1-10. 10 being completely confident. Where would you rate yourself on you one day opening your eyes in heaven? After you rate yourself, explain why.
- Read **John 14:1-7**. According to this passage what is the only way to heaven? (V6) Do you find yourself trying to do other things to get to a better afterlife? How do you balance pursuing a relationship with Jesus instead of doing good things to get to a better afterlife?
- Only with an intimate and personal relationship with Jesus can a person know confidently that they will one day open their eyes in heaven. How can this life group help you pursue a relationship with Jesus?

Now Go Do It (resources and next steps)

Challenge: Read **Revelation 21:1-4**. In Jesus we have a hope of a beautiful afterlife with Jesus. Your hope of an afterlife should impact your daily decisions. What is one area of your life that needs to change in order to reflect the hope you have? What is one thing you can change next week in order to accomplish that change? How can this life group hold you accountable to that change?