

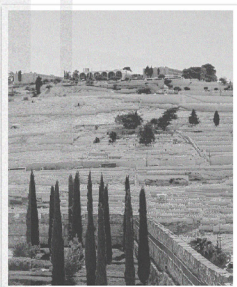
The Purpose of This Book

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.



that you may

# BELIEVE



## “THE GREEN-EYED MONSTER” discussion questions

1. If a close friend confided in you that they consistently struggled with envy, what counsel would you give them? What advise have you heard given, that is not helpful?
2. Have you ever struggled with life (and therefore, God) not being fair? How did you deal with it? Can you even imagine a world where every person’s life, opportunities, experiences, resources, qualities, and outcomes could all be perfectly identical? Would that even be a “good thing?”
3. “The solution to inequity is not sameness, but rather a yielding to, and trust in God’s prerogative to choose our lot in life.” How does that statement land on you? Does that in any way limit anyone’s ability to fulfill the chief end of man: to glorify God and enjoy him forever? How does Psalm 23:1 alter our paradigm and expectations regarding this life?
4. If you live in 21st century America, then you are among the richest 1% of people in all human history. How does that knowledge impact your perspective on envy or entitlement? Jeff Bezos reportedly earns \$142,667 per minute (11/17/21 Facebook stat). How does knowing that impact your temptation to envy? Read Hebrews 13:5. What do you primarily look to for happiness and satisfaction: what you have, or who you have?
5. The gospel of Jesus Christ offers a radically different (and infinitely superior) source of satisfaction and happiness than where most people are seeking it. Is that just “pie-in-the-sky,” or is there real substance to that claim? How have you experienced it? Read Psalm 73 in its entirety. What was the turning point in the psalmist’s struggle?

(Quote):

“Every believer has a whole God, wholly, he has all of God for his portion. God is not a believer’s portion in a limited sense, nor in a comparative sense, but in an absolute sense; God himself is theirs, he is wholly theirs, he is only theirs, he is always theirs.”

- Thomas Brooks

### The Book of John

The Word Became Flesh

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.<sup>2</sup> He was in the beginning with God.<sup>3</sup> All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made.<sup>4</sup> In him was life, and the life was the light of men.<sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

<sup>6</sup> There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him.<sup>7</sup> He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

<sup>8</sup> The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world.<sup>9</sup> He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him.<sup>10</sup> He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him.<sup>11</sup> But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God,<sup>12</sup> who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

<sup>13</sup> And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.<sup>14</sup> (John bore witness about him, and cried out, “This was he of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.’) <sup>15</sup> For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.<sup>16</sup> For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.<sup>17</sup> No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father’s side, he has made him known.

