



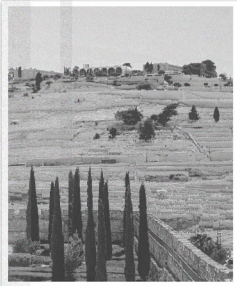
that you may

BELIEVE

The Purpose of This Book

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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.



“AVOIDING THE SNARE OF COMPARISON” discussion questions

1. Describe a time when you were overly competitive. How did that affect those around you? What do you think was the root or inner motivation for doing that?
2. How much do you find yourself comparing yourself to other people in the area of overall quality of life? Why is this a pointless and fruitless waste of time? Why do you think Jesus rebuked Peter so sternly for this in John 21:22?
3. Do you think that many Christians are daily focused on how they are called to glorify God in their unique station of life and circumstances, or are they focused on something else? If so, what?
4. We discussed three ways to help us avoid the trap of comparison:
 - a. Realize that all the pain and hardship of this life is very temporary.
 - b. Know our afflictions are producing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison.
 - c. Seek your identity from Christ alone.
 Which of these have you found most helpful? In what ways do you still struggle?

5. Brainstorm all the good fruit that can result from a person finding their entire identity in Christ.

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.² All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made.³ In him was life, and the life was the light of men.⁴ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

⁵ 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.⁶ He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.⁷ The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world.⁸ He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him.⁹ He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him.¹⁰ But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.¹¹ who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

¹² 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.¹³ (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.'")¹⁴ For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.¹⁵ For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.¹⁶ No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.

