



Brown Community Group Discussion Guide

Jude Series Lesson 2 – November 8, 2015

I. *The Book of Jude*

II. Scripture Teaching:

1. Verses 3-4: ³ Beloved, although I was very eager to write to you about our common salvation, I found it necessary to write appealing to you to contend for the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints. ⁴ For certain people have crept in unnoticed who long ago were designated for this condemnation, ungodly people, who pervert the grace of our God into sensuality and deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ.”

Key Points:

- Jude urges believers to contend for the faith because rebellious false teachers are perverting the Gospel by excusing sensuality.
- Before anything else is said, true doctrine and true faith must be connected.
- You cannot have a true faith in Jesus while holding to unbiblical doctrine.

What must Christians do to “contend” for the faith?

1. Know the truth (Spirit-empowered, biblical knowledge);
2. Grow in Christlikeness (relationship/communion with God);
3. Unify with others on basics (the Gospel, Trinity, etc)

2. Verses 4, 8: ⁴ For certain people have crept in unnoticed who long ago were designated for this condemnation, ungodly people, who pervert the grace of our God into sensuality and deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ ... ⁸ Yet in like manner these people also, relying on their dreams, defile the flesh, reject authority, and blaspheme the glorious ones.

Key Points:

- False teachers promote licensing to sin, defiling what God has created, rejecting authority, and slander the works of God.

3. Verse 12-13: ¹² These are hidden reefs at your love feasts, as they feast with you without fear, shepherds feeding themselves; waterless clouds, swept along by winds; fruitless trees in late autumn, twice dead, uprooted; ¹³ wild waves of the sea, casting up the foam of their own shame; wandering stars, for whom the gloom of utter darkness has been reserved forever.”

Key Points:

- Five metaphors are used to illustrate dangers of false teachers who embody true depravity when they are perverting the gospel:
 - i. **hidden reefs** — while looking like Christians, they harm newcomers.

- ii. **shepherds feeding themselves** — they exist for their own nourishment.
- iii. **waterless clouds** — promising rain that never falls.
- iv. **fruitless trees** — twice dead because they exist without fruit, then die.
- v. **wandering stars** — that give misleading guidance.
- vi. **wild waves** — sexually deviant and dark.
- vii. **Utter Darkness** – lack of salvation and lost

IV. Overriding Message for Christians

- Jesus grace offers forgiveness to us as sinners in our disobedience
- His way, path and direction never produces disobedience or mistruths.
- When a Christian discerns a lack of truth, perversion or fleshly behaviors, **BEWARE!**

IV. Small Group Questions:

1. With respect to verses 3-4, What are the Christian “Basics” that we must agree with and rally around?
 - a. List the items that we should find important, but may not be basics/essential?
 - b. Why is it important to unify around the basics/essential things?
2. Community Group Discussion of Question 1 Answers
3. Discuss specifically what is referenced in Verses 4,8 with respect to “teaching or perversion of the truth”? Any specifics for our Edmond/OKC area that come to mind?
4. In verses 12:13, Discuss each of the metaphors?
 - a. Why do you think the metaphors were used to describe the nature, characteristics and results of the false teachers?
5. How can we protect each other in the Community Group from falling into these errors that Jude speaks to?
 - a. What do we need to practice and do daily?