



BELIEVE STUDY GUIDE

WEEK 7 (4/29): HUMANITY

Personal Study

This study guide should be used the week following the sermon it supplements. The study guide will closely follow Randy Frazee's book, "Believe: Living the Story of the Bible to Become Like Jesus." You can purchase a copy of the book online at www.amazon.com or get a copy from Mardel's bookstore. There are also "Believe" reading schedule for each chapter on the "Believe" bulletin board in the foyer. This study guide is designed to help you consider what you are learning.

KEY IDEA I believe all people are loved by God and need Jesus Christ as their Savior.

KEY VERSE For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, the whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. — John 3:16

Read Believe, Chapter 7: Humanity *and answer the following questions.*

1. What patterns do you observe in these Scriptures?
2. As you read these passages, what questions came to mind?
3. What did you read that disarmed you? Tested you? Enthused you? Confused you?
4. In what way is humanity set apart from the rest of God's creation? How does our part of the creation story differ from the rest?
5. In your opinion, which section of this chapter demonstrates God's faithful love the most? Why?
6. Why is it easier to classify our personal sin as "not that bad" but the sin of others as "detestable"? Why does God not see it this way?

7. Is there a certain race, political affiliation, age group, nationality, or socioeconomic crowd that is hard for you to love? What needs to change in order for you to see them the way God sees them? How can the Holy Spirit help make this change happen?

8. Think of a time when God changed your heart toward a person or people group. How did this change come about?

Evaluate

Based on your reading from Believe, Chapter 7: Humanity, evaluate your level of confidence in the statements below, using a 1–6 scale (1 = no confidence, 6 = complete certainty).

- _____ I believe that each person possesses a sinful nature and is in need of God’s forgiveness.
- _____ I believe we are created in the image of God and therefore have equal value, regardless of race, religion, or gender.
- _____ I believe all people are loved by God; therefore I too should love them.
- _____ I believe the Holy Spirit is God and dwells in Christians to empower them to live the Christian life.

Take Action

Memorizing Scripture is a valuable discipline for all believers to exercise. Spend a few minutes each day committing this week’s Key Verse to memory.

Recite this week’s Key Idea out loud. As you do, ask yourself, does my life reflect this statement?

Answer the following questions to help you apply this week’s Key Idea to your own life.

1. What behaviors help you recognize someone who believes all people are loved by God and need Jesus Christ as their Savior?
2. What, if anything, hinders you from fully loving people the way God loves them?
3. What is something you can do this week to demonstrate this belief?

Journal

To help you keep all your Believe thoughts and materials in one place, note any verses or insights God gives you as you spend time with Him this week. This is also a great place to attach your sermon notes from Robert’s message on Sunday morning.
