Unvarnished Discussion Questions (11/19/23)

Week 3 - The OT Points to Jesus

Instructions: A life group is a family growing in Jesus together (worship), caring for each other (community), and BLESSing our neighbors together (mission). Start with a couple of the CONNECT questions. Then read the Scriptures and discuss. Make sure to conclude by applying the passage and finishing with a time of prayer.

CONNECT TOGETHER (choose 1-2)

- 1. What is something you are thankful for this week?
- 2. How have you seen Jesus at work in the world around you? How have you been able to join him? Remember, God works through small stories.
- 3. Are you facing a challenge right now?
- 4. From Sunday's message, is there a thought or idea that especially intrigued, provoked, disturbed, challenged, encouraged, or surprised you?

READ John 5:39-47

- 1. Have someone retell the passage in their own words.
- 2. What does Jesus do or say that is different than what you typically expect?
- 3. Does anything else stand out as surprising or interesting?
- 4. What are some religious beliefs or practices in your life or your background that you are beginning to recognize as varnish?
- 5. What do you learn about people in this passage? (yourself, others)
- 6. What do you learn about God in this passage? (his character, his ways, etc.)

LIVE IT OUT

- 1. How can you apply this passage this week?
- How is this passage calling our group to live out God's mission to bless others?

PRAY

