



## STUDY GUIDE

### **When was the last time you got into a good argument with someone?**

I know, that is a bit of a loaded question. Sadly, arguments are rarely experienced as “good” things. However, at their core, arguments are about two people seeking truth, knowledge and understanding together. At their best, arguments provide a context for sharing beliefs, examining data or information, and discovering truth and beauty. Share a few stories either about arguments that weren’t so great, or about experiences of truly seeking and searching for truth with someone.

### **Text: John 8:48-59 and John 20:26-31**

During the sermon, we explored the meaning of the word, “Amen,” and how it is used in many different ways throughout scripture. It can mean

- The faithfulness of God.
- The solid and sure plans and follow-through of God.
- The nature of God himself.

It can also be a way to verbally name faithfulness. It can mean

- Yes, I agree!
- May it be so.
- This is most certainly true.

### **What was most interesting to you about these various uses of the word “Amen” in the bible? How did this give you a fuller or different understanding of the significance of saying “Amen” at the end of a prayer? How will this change the way you use the word “Amen” in your own prayers of life?**

Jesus used the word in an interesting way in John chapter 8. He repeated it twice and used it at the beginning of two statements he made about himself. These statements were made in the context of an argument he was having with the Pharisees. Jesus was claiming to speak truth about God and about life, but the Pharisees were *not* convinced. He used the word, “Amen, Amen” to let people know they could trust his words to be true. And here is what he said “Amen” about.

### **Whoever obeys my word will never see death.**

Then, he proved his words were true when he died and three days later, rose back to life.

### **Honest to God**

At the end of the sermon, here was the closing thought.

### **Jesus said “Amen” to us as an invitation for us to say, “Amen” to him.**

- **Is there anything you are holding back from God?**
- **Is there any way you need to say, “Amen” to Jesus today and place you full trust and faith in him?**