STUDY GUIDE

NEVER THE SAME 2.22.15

[setup]

How is your Live New 10/24 going? Does anyone have a story to share?

Last week it got to -16 in Northeast Ohio. Cold! What is the coldest temperature you have every experienced? Who in your group has experienced the coldest temperature?

On Sunday Pastor Josh kicked off our "Never the Same" sermon series by asking everyone to draw something that symbolized an event after which they were never the same. What did you draw? What life event happened after which you were never the same?

[digging deeper]

Was there anything in particular that stuck out to you from last Sunday?

Last Sunday we looked at the story in John 9 of the man born blind where we focused on the three names that people called Jesus. They were Rabbi, Prophet, Lord. A Rabbi is respected, a Prophet obeyed, but the Lord is to be worshipped and loved. Growing up, did you think of Jesus more as a Rabbi, Prophet, or Lord? What about now?

In verse 35, Jesus asks the blind man if he believes in the "Son of Man." This is a reference to Daniel 7:13-14. Read that now. The term "Son of Man" was used as a poetic term for a human, and the term "Son of Man" was seen during Jesus' time through the lens of Daniel 7. Throughout the Gospel of John, Jesus calls himself the "Son of Man" more than any other name. Why is the term uniquely suited to refer to Jesus? How does the term "Son of Man" – with its common and glorious meanings – inform the way we should relate to Jesus?

John 9:38 says that the man born blind believed in Jesus and worshipped him. How do these two terms relate? What does it mean to believe in Jesus? What does it mean to worship him?

How does Abraham Kuyper's (pronounced like viper with a k) quote challenge our culture's view of authority and our own view of faith in Jesus? His quote:

"There is not a square inch in the whole domain of our human existence over which Christ, who is Sovereign over all, does not cry: 'Mine!'"

[live it out]

If Jesus is the Lord and not just a Rabbi or Prophet, what things in your life do you need to change? What things have you been meaning to change but haven't?

Jesus as Lord means you worship him and love him. The best way to grow your love of Jesus is to meditate (think long) on the gospel. Spend some time in your group on silent meditation and pray, thinking about the gospel. It may be helpful to read Isaiah 53:4-6 beforehand.

Take time now to pray as a group for those ten people you are praying for on your 10/24 list.