

Lent - Holy Discussion Questions
2.14.16

Leader Prep Section

Take time before your small group meeting to prepare by reading through the questions and scripture passage so that you can select 4-5 questions that are best suited to your group.

Try to work through at least one question from each of the sections - Hook, Book, Look, Took in order to move from observation to application.

When possible spend time in prayer for each member of your group.

Questions

Hook - Ice breaker type questions to help make the transition into the study time.

1. Why do you worship God?
2. What elements of worship are essential in your mind?

Background

The book of Revelation was written by John one of Jesus's original 12 disciples. He was in prison on the Island of Patmos writing to the churches he supported as their pastor a vision he received from God. It is full of apocalyptic imagery that made sense to the original audience that has proven challenging for modern audiences to fully understand. That does not mean we should avoid reading Revelation or that it is completely unintelligible. On the contrary, there is great truth for us if we are willing to read carefully. For instance in chapter 4 John paints of a picture of what worship looks like before the throne in heaven. This scene comes immediately on the heels of John's writing of letters to the 7 churches with instructions for them. Chapter 4 paints a vivid picture of what worship looks like when you are in the presence of God on his throne.

As you read this chapter try not to get too distracted by the description of the participants, but focus on the central elements of the worship and the reason behind why they worship.

Read Revelation 4

Book - These questions are designed to get you into the text itself.

1. What elements of John's description of the scene stood out to you?
2. Individually or as a group draw your version of this scene.
3. What are the 24 elders doing while the 4 living creatures are saying their part?

Look - These questions will take you on a deeper look at what the passage means for us today.

1. Why do the 4 living creatures and the 24 elders worship the one who sits on the throne?
2. If Jesus called you to see what was going on in heaven today and told you to write about it so that your friends would understand it what do you think would be different?
 - The big idea is that we worship God because he is holy and worthy of worship not because it does something for us.
3. If worship isn't about us, what in our approach to worship needs to change?

Took - These questions are focused on applying the big idea from the text to our lives.

1. If worship is designed to be our response to God's holiness then what do we need to change to be prepared for our corporate worship times?

2. Does the worship described here by John only apply to our time together on Sunday morning? If not, then how do we maintain an attitude of worship?

Closing

There is only one who is worthy of all praise and honor and glory and power and it is him we are called to worship. Finish your time together by praying for open minds and hearts to be prepared to worship the one who is worthy.

Reminder: There is only one who is holy and he sent his son to become man to die for us that we could be in relationship with him once more. It is to him we give all our everything.