

Lent - Holy Discussion Questions
3.6.16

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. What does it mean to be good; not good at something, but just good?
2. How would you describe God's goodness?

Background

Isaiah was a prophet in Jerusalem prior to the exile to Babylon and was called by God after King Uzziah died. Each true prophet of God has a unique story about how they were called to speak God's truth to the people of Israel. Isaiah's call is captured in Isaiah 6 and you may have heard it before. When Isaiah recognizes that he has seen and heard the Most High God he reacts to the perfect Goodness that is God and his total lack of being worthy. The Temple is mentioned in this passage and it is important to remember that for most Israelites the Temple was the most magnificent and biggest building they had ever seen.

Read Isaiah 6:1-7

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

1. What does the text say about the train of the Lord's robe?
2. How does Isaiah react to being in the presence of God?
3. How does Isaiah describe the scene he enters?
4. What does the one of the seraphim bring to Isaiah to remove his guilt and atone for his sin?

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

1. Why do you think the author makes the point that the train of the Lord's robe filled the Temple?
 - This may have been to make the point that the God Most High could not be contained by a building. The Israelites of the Southern Kingdom believed they were protected from the type of misfortune that had come to the Northern Kingdom because the Temple was the dwelling place of God and he would protect them.
2. If Isaiah reacted this way to being in the presence of God how should we react?
3. How do you think you would react to finding yourself in this scene?
4. What is the relationship between the events Isaiah experienced here and your own path to accepting Jesus as your savior?
 - Notice that Isaiah finds himself in the presence of God and realizes that he is so good and holy that it takes all of the world to contain his glory. Then he acknowledges his own need and finally is offered and accepts forgiveness which comes from the altar of sacrifice.

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

1. What steps do you take to keep from being blind to the overwhelming goodness of God?
2. In what situations have you found yourself responding like Isaiah to the nearness of God? How do you share those experiences with others?
3. How do you keep a clear vision of the immensity of God? How does knowing the Temple could only hold the train of his robe and the whole earth is filled with his glory help remind you of this truth?

Closing

Spend a few minutes share together times you have been reminded of the Goodness of God. Then close in prayer for one another that you would be like Isaiah when he was acutely aware of God's goodness and his lack thereof. Isaiah's realization moved him to action so that when God asked, "Whom shall I send..." Isaiah's response was immediate, "Send me." During this time Lent let us be moved to action to take the message of God's goodness to those in our lives.

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.