



Sermon Discussion Guide

The Climax of Canaanization - Christian Lindbeck

November 14th, 2021

Leader Preparation

1. Take some time to look over these questions ahead of time. Choose the ones that you want to make sure you cover with your group. We have highlighted what we think are **key ideas/questions by bolding them.**
2. Pray for your group and your time together as you prepare. This is so helpful!
3. When meeting online you as the leader will need to be more directive than in person. Don't be afraid to invite everyone to answer a question, invite them to share by name, and thank them when they finish. The online format requires a little more intentional orchestrating than an in-person group.
4. Try to start the gathering by getting everyone talking at least once to begin. The Hook section is great for this. When in doubt, have people share stories about their past. (How the week was, favorite memories about the topic for the day, etc). This is a great way to help your group continue to get to know one another.
5. Next, look at the Scripture and what it means. We believe Jesus is discipling people through this Word. Get people into the Scriptures and the Scriptures into people!
6. Finally, end with what God is saying to people and how God is inviting them to respond. These aren't just ideas to know but realities to live in!



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Hook - Getting to know one another

- How is everyone doing this week? This could also be an icebreaker question related to the topic for discussion.
- Who would win in a one on one fight of Samson vs. Goliath?
- What has stood out to you thus far when reading and studying the book of Judges?

Book - Scripture

- Read the scripture, and discuss a few questions to understand **what the text is saying**.
- **Read Judges 17**
 - What are the problems with this passage? What stands out to you in this introduction story of Micah as being out of place or not consistent with God's character?
 - Why was Micah so fascinated with creating a household shrine of idols and employing a stranger to be the priest over them?
- **Read Judges 18:1-12**
 - Why were the people of Dan so interested in finding a new land to settle? What were their motivations in moving so far away from the original land they inherited?
- **Read Judges 18: 13-26**
 - What reasons do you think that the people of Dan used to justify their taking of Micah's household gods and priest?
- **Read Judges 18: 27-31**
 - Why is the detail of the name of the priest left out until the end of the passage?



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Look - Connections to our world today

- This section focuses on implications about **what this text means** about what's wrong in the world, about trusting God, about who God is, etc.
- Discuss the concept of repentance being a gift. Do you view it this way? Does our western culture view apologizing and remorse as a gift? Why or why not?
- What are barriers to repentance? Why is this the case, and how do we overcome them?
- What are some of the common justifications to resist repentance and continue living in our current state?

Took - Personal Application

- This application focuses on **how God is calling us to respond**. This could be personally, as a family, small group, or church. It could be something to believe, to meditate on, to say or do this week.
- When was the last time you engaged in genuine repentance to God? Are you ready to accept the gift of repentance? If not why do you think that is the case, and what needs to happen in order to change that?
- Think about the parallels between God's free and unrelenting forgiveness and the requirement of his people to desire to live righteously and engage in soft hearted repentance. Set aside 5 minutes per day this week to wrestle with this question and write down your thoughts in a journal.
- Pick one area in your life that may not be in alignment with God's will. Set aside one day this week to engage in confession with a person that you trust. Pray together in thankfulness for God's grace and that you are not alone in your struggles.
- Is there an area of your life that God has called you to that you are not occupying? Do you feel the temptation to "move to an easier land"? Read Judges Chapter 18 and reflect on these questions.



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Time of Prayer