Lent - Holy Discussion Questions 2.21.16

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. Describe the most beautiful place you have been.
- 2. What makes a person beautiful?

Background

Ezekiel was a prophet during the exile in Babylon and he was called by God to share the visions he received with the people of Israel while they were far from home. The book opens with a vision of the activity around the throne of God and a description of the one who sits on the throne. There is certainly imagery found in Ezekiel similar to what John would use to describe what he saw in his visions captured in the book of Revelation.

Read Ezekiel 1

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

- 1. How does Ezekiel describe the four creatures?
- 2. What sort of words are used to describe the sounds made by the creatures?
- 3. What is described in verses 25 through 28?

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

- 1. How would you describe the beauty of the worship that takes place before the throne of God?
- 2. Describe in your own words what the throne of God looks like.
- 3. When you think about being face-to-face with God what is your first reaction?

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

- 1. How do you introduce the Creator of all beauty to those in your life?
 - Ezekiel used the images found in Ezekiel 1 to paint a picture for his people, who were far from home, of their God. He focused on the magnificence of the one being worshiped and the throne room he was in. The point was their God was greater than all the rulers they had encountered.
- 2. How can you use the language of beauty to point people to Jesus?

Closing

Take some time to pray together for eyes to see the beauty in front of us each day. Sometimes that can be challenging as we go and do the same things day after day, but beauty is all around us. The beauty around us can point us to the one who represents beauty perfectly. Be on the

lookout for opportunities this week to share with people the truth of Jesus using his beauty as a starting point.

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.