

Lent - Holy Discussion Questions
3.20.16

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. Share a story of a time when you made a sacrifice for someone else so they could get ahead.
2. What does it mean to you that God sacrificed his Son to be in relationship with each of us?

Background

Exodus tells the story of the people of Israel and their experience in Egypt and how they were rescued from slavery and made their way to the land promised to Abraham by God. In the opening chapters we meet Moses and his family as well as the Pharaoh and his family. Moses grew up as part of Pharaoh's household because his mother saved him by putting him in a reed basket and setting it to float down the Nile and it was found by one of Pharaoh's daughters. When Moses became an adult he was troubled by the way the Egyptians treated the Israelites and lashed out and killed a guard. Moses was then forced to flee to the desert where he lived as a shepherd until God called him from a burning bush (that did not burn up). God sent Moses back to Egypt with a message for Pharaoh; it is time to let the Israelites leave Egypt. When Moses returned to Egypt Pharaoh was not willing to let the Israelites go so then God brought a series of plagues upon Egypt. The final plague is the one found in Chapter 12 and is the basis for the annual Jewish feast of Passover. This feast is celebrated to this day by Jews around the world and often coincides with our celebration of Easter.

Read Exodus 12

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

1. What instructions does God give to Moses and Aaron about celebrating the Passover?
2. Moses and Aaron were given context for the celebration of the Passover by God what details did they pass on to the Israelites?
3. What was the result of the God bringing this final plague on Egypt?
4. How does what Jesus did on the cross fit in this story?

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

1. Is it important to continue to celebrate the Passover today? Why or why not?
2. How do you tell this part of the Exodus story to your family and friends?
3. How do you explain God's actions in this story?
4. What do you think this story sounds like from the Egyptian side? What value is there in remembering the impact to Egypt?

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

1. What can we do to remember what God has done for us?
2. How does knowing God sacrificed for our salvation impact the way we live?
3. How is God different than any of the other gods we so often find ourselves worshipping?
 - Think in terms of other gods being anything that pulls your attention away from the one true God. It could be money, beauty, career, success, fun, etc.

Closing

Take some time in closing to pray for one another to be preparing for the failures of Maundy Thursday, the darkness of Good Friday, the silence of Saturday and the initial confusion and then celebration of Easter Sunday. This is our time to be walk with the disciples through all they experienced during the final week of Jesus's life and allow our faith and understanding to be deepened as a result.

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.