

WEEK 6

MAY 21, 2023

Life Group Curriculum

Words of a Dying Man: Jesus

1

INTRODUCTION ACTIVITY

God Encounters:
Share some way
you saw God
interact in your
life this week.

2

MEMORY VERSE

John 5:39,
"You search the
Scriptures," Jesus
says, "because you
think that in them you
have eternal life; and
it is they that bear
witness about me."

3

SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 7:35-38

*"Jesus is the true and
better rock of Moses,
who, struck with the
rod of God's justice,
now gives us water in
the desert."*

-Tim Keller

*"We might say to Moses,
What was it like to follow
the cloud by day and the
fire by night? What was
it like to meet with God
on that Mountain? And
Moses might say, I had
to climb that mountain
to meet with God. You
tell me what it was like
to have him dwell in you
everyday. What was it
like to have the Holy
Spirit giving you
directions when you
didn't know what to do
or where to go?"*

-Kyle Idleman

Discussion Questions

1. What stands out to you? (Work through the questions on the back from the verses we've read)
2. As Stephen attacks the Jewish leaders, he is emphasizing that they are not reading them with humble, supple hearts that are seeking to hear from the Lord and as a consequence they have missed the Messiah they have been waiting for. How do you tend to read Scripture?
3. When you come to something you don't understand in Scripture, how do you feel? How do you react? What do you do about it?
4. What does it mean to read the Scriptures humbly? What would it look like/feel like if we did so?
5. How can we read humbly, embrace wonder, and still hold to convictions of faith?
6. Why is reading the Scriptures in community such an important part of biblical study?

WORDS
of a dying man

Questions to ask when reading the Bible

Sometimes when we read a passage in the Bible it can be confusing or we may not know how to best figure out what it is saying. Below are some good questions to ask when reading the Bible to help make the Bible make sense.

1. What stands out to me?

Note that this does not say "What does this passage mean?" Consider what stood out to you? What did you notice? What did the Holy Spirit highlight for you as you read it?

2. What does the text say about the character/nature of God?

The Scriptures are primarily about God so ask first what the text says about Him before moving to what it says about us, about His plan, or about anything else.

3. What does the text say?

Look at what the text literally says first (this may not be the intent of the text but it is important to look at it as read... at least initially).

4. How is it saying it?

What is the genre of the text and how should we read text in that genre?

5. Why does it say it that way?

Speculate about why the author chose this method of saying what they've said.

6. What is it trying to say?

Getting behind the Scripture, looking at its context, its original audience, its author, etc., what is the text trying to get across to the reader (both the original audience and us today?)

7. How does this fit into the whole of the book and the whole of Scripture?

Looking at the whole book, does what is being said jive with the whole book, with the whole of Scripture?

8. What questions do I have?

Do you have questions about the text? If they aren't answered in the text, are they good questions or are we asking questions that the text isn't meant to answer?

9. How do I feel about this teaching/text? Why do I feel that way?

What does your gut say? Are you frustrated with it? Are you trying to make it say something else than what it says? Does it make you uncomfortable? Where are these feelings coming from? Is there sin in my life I need to repent of?

10. What is the universal application of this text/teaching?

What are we to do with this text? Consider the original audience as well as us today.

11. What is my personal application?

What is God calling you to apply with what you've learned with this text?

12. How will I apply what it calls me to?

Make a plan to apply what God has taught you. Seek to be faithful and obedient to His leading, wherever it may go.