The New Normal… Walking in the Presence and Power of Jesus

Getting Ready For The New Normal

Small Group Study Questions for the week of November 1-7

GETTING STARTED

Think back for a minute to when you first learned that Jesus is always with us. What was that like? Is there another time where you seemed to be much more conscious of his presence? What was it about that time that fostered or encouraged that? What do you feel discourages that? Take a few minutes in your group to share your answers with one another.

DIGGING DEEP

1. Read Psalm 24:3–4, what can we learn from the Psalmist that would encourage us as we desire to be more conscious of the presence of God in our lives?

2. Have you ever had the impression that someone close to you is distant but they're not saying why? You can't think of anything that you've said or done that might cause that. There may be times in our lives that the Lord is feeling distant from us and we don't know why. What can we learn from Psalm 139:23–24 that could help us?

3. After King David was confronted with his sin with Bathsheba, he wrote Psalm 51. What can we learn in verses 1-4, that might help us when we are confronted with our own sins and struggles that keep us from the presence of God?

4. What can we learn about the assurance of God's forgiveness from 1 John 1:9 and Psalm 32:5?

5. What do you think keeps people from seeking forgiveness from the Lord? Why do we tend to hesitate when we know we have blown it in some area of our lives?

6. When our conscience is clear and we are aware of the presence of Jesus, what do you say to him? According to Psalms 84:1–2, 4, and 103:1-4, what hints do these Psalms give us?

7. Are you a singer? Maybe not publicly, but in the shower or in the car? Do you ever find yourself singing a Christian song from church or that you've heard on the radio or playlist? What do you think motivated the writer of Psalm 96 to pen the words in verses 1-5?

8. When you're singing a Christian song, whether in church with others or alone, do you ever picture the Lord smiling, and listening intently to what you're singing to him? How might singing to the Lord encourage our walking in his presence?

9. When you have a lot on your heart weighing you down, who do you share that with? A close friend, a spouse, a brother or sister? Have you ever felt "they don't want to hear all my concerns?" What might Psalm 62:8 teach us about pouring out our hearts to God?

A MATTER OF PRAYER

After reading Psalm 105:4, take time in your group to pray that for one another, that the Lord would help us to live this out in the coming week. Also consider as a group committing this verse to memory this week.

Next Week: The New Normal… Walking in the Light with the Indwelling Christ