



JOURNEY GROUPS

MAR 15 LEADER GUIDE

LEADERS NOTES

A few notes for you as a leader as you meet again this week:

- One of the visions for our Journey Groups is that they would become "faith families". How have you seen this grow in your own group, and what are some things that you can intentionally do to help your group grow as a family of faith?
- We also desire that no one is able to "hide" in these groups. This doesn't mean we force people to talk or pray when they don't want to, but I want to challenge you, as the leader, to think of ways to help people engage more. What are the things you can intentionally do to help them step deeper in?
- If you haven't done it yet, try to get people in your group to share a five-minute version of their testimony. One per week!
- As you walk through the questions with your group, try to identify the "link" between them, helping your group and yourself see how they build as we walk through the sermon passage together.

SHARE - ICE BREAKERS

- What is the most surprising thing somebody has ever done for you?
- When (age, event, milestone) did you first consider yourself an adult?
- Besides Jesus, who is your favorite person in the Bible and what makes them your favorite?

STUDY

Digging Deeper into "Perfect Posture - Week 2"

1. Our second "posture", Jesus washing the feet of His 12 disciples, was a truly jaw-dropping experience for Jesus' disciples. **Read John 13:1-17.**
2. Jesus is nearing the end of His time with the disciples. How does that impact how we should interpret Jesus' actions and words to His disciples?
3. **Reread John 13:1-4 in different translations, if possible.** What is meant by John's statement about Jesus loving His disciples "to the end"? Why is this statement important in setting the stage for what was about to happen?
4. John's statement about Judas in verse 2 seems almost parenthetical (background). Why is it not parenthetical at all? (*He's ensuring we know Judas is still in the room and is one of the disciples whom Jesus serves.*)
5. In verse 3, John writes that God had placed "all things under [Jesus'] power, and that He had come from God and was returning to God." What is so significant about this statement? (*What Jesus knew drove what Jesus did.*)
6. What actions did Jesus take before washing the disciples' feet? Why do these details matter?
7. **Reread verse 5.** Why were Jesus' actions so shocking to His disciples?
8. Why do you think Jesus chose the act of footwashing to teach His disciples about humility?
9. Knowing Judas would betray Him, why do you think Jesus washed his feet?
10. On Sunday, John said Jesus' actions are a picture of the gospel. What did he mean? Are there other elements of the gospel that John didn't mention?
11. **Reread verses 6-9.** Why was Peter initially so opposed to Jesus washing his feet? What do you think the other disciples thought of Peter's first reaction?
12. Jesus was direct but gentle in His response to Peter's bold opposition. In regard to dealing with unbelievers, what's to learn from Jesus' interaction with Peter? Peter quickly goes from "No!" to "Yes!!!" What changed for him?
13. **Reread verse 10.** How does the "bath vs. foot washing" conversation help us understand the difference between salvation and ongoing spiritual cleansing? Why is confessing our sins to God so important in our walk with Him? What might the absence of this practice say about our spiritual walk?

14. John spent considerable time distinguishing between Judas and Peter (and the rest of the disciples.) What do you remember from this? (*Judas didn't want his feet washed (but played along). Peter didn't understand.*)
15. Reread verse 11. Why are Jesus' words here so important in understanding salvation? (*Only those who truly follow Jesus are washed clean.*)
16. Reread verse 14-15. What command does Jesus give His disciples after washing their feet? What would it look like for our church to live this out?
17. Why is our understanding of our salvation and our walk in Jesus so critical to our ability to truly love and humbly serve?
18. Reread verse 17. What is so significant about what Jesus says here? Jesus connects blessing with obedience. Why is that connection important?
19. How does Jesus redefine authority and greatness?
20. Read Philippians 2:1-8. How does this passage help us better understand what Jesus was doing in John 13? What parallels exist in these passages?
21. What attitudes does Paul instruct believers to reject? What attitudes or behaviors does Paul encourage instead?
22. Which part of this passage or sermon challenged you the most personally?
23. When is it hardest for you to serve others with humility?
24. Have you ever struggled, like Peter, to receive help, grace, or forgiveness from someone else? Why do you think that is?
25. Can you recall a time when someone served you in a way that deeply impacted you spiritually?

PRAYER

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