

ACTS2COMMUNITY

STUDY QUESTIONS

May 3, 2009

Overview: This week the focus is on the sovereignty of God, and whether we are choosing to submit to God or fight against Him. Read the verses thoroughly, and prepare ahead of time to share with your group ways that you have struggled to let go of something and place all your faith in God's plan.

*Scripture Reading: Exodus 6:6-8
James 4:1-10*

Getting Started

What is your typical reaction when someone makes a promise to you? Trust? Cynicism? Just wait and see?

Share a time when you felt as if God was against you. How did that make you feel?

Encourage your members to express where their anger was directed. Were they really mad at God or at the situation they were in? As a leader, it can be valuable to be the first to share an experience in which you were mad at God. The emotion of anger itself is not a sin; it is healthy to be able to express anger towards God instead of pretending it is not there.

Digging Deeper

In Exodus 6:6-8, God again confirms with Moses His promise deliver the Hebrews from bondage, redeem them, and bring them into the land He has promised them. What do you think was Moses' reaction to what God told him? Would you have believed God if you were in His shoes?

Try to help the group put themselves in Moses' shoes. Discuss what it is like to hear God's promises, and yet continue to doubt.

Following God requires surrendering to His sovereignty. Read James 4:7-10. What does this passage say about how we are to approach and interact with God? What then is our response to God?

(see verse 3, 6 & 7)

Application

In your relationship with God, which has more impact: Past acts of God? Present circumstances? Future Promises? Why?

Ultimately, what is keeping you from a closer relationship with God? What can you do about it, in light of the verses we just read?

Conclusion: God wants us to rely on Him. He knows us: when life is easy, He's easily forgotten. If you can solve your own problems, you won't see the hand of God. However, God asks us to DO before He DOES. When man says to God "You come here, and I'll decide if I want to"... God says "Draw near to Me, and I will draw near to you."