

GENESIS STUDY QUESTIONS

August 9, 2009

“Josiah: A Light in the Dark”

Leaders: If you missed the sermon (or any group members did), read 2 Kings 22-23:30 to familiarize yourself with the story of King Josiah. This conversation may cause more questions than answers. Encourage your group members to explore the questions that they do present. As a leader, be slow to respond yourself with an answer. Instead, encourage their search for the answer.

Question to be answered: “Why should I forsake my life for a life devoted to God?”

The Big Idea: God has given me life so that I can offer hope to others.

Getting Started

What other countries have you visited?

How did they compare/contrast with the United States? Be specific.

Digging Deeper

In last week’s sermon, we learned that Josiah was a king who “did right in the eyes of the Lord and walked in all the ways of his father David”. While most of Judah’s kings before Josiah did right in the eyes of the Lord, they failed to remove the high places. Despite God’s covenant with them, pagan worship continued.

Leaders: To review God’s covenant, refer to Deuteronomy 28.

What did God say about King Josiah (through the words of the prophet Jeremiah)? See Jeremiah 22:15-16.

Jeremiah, the prophet said of Josiah “He did what was right and just, so all went well with Him. He defended the cause of the poor and needy, and so all went well. Is that not what it means to know me, declares the Lord?”

Using Jeremiah’s description, how does King Josiah’s life represent a knowledge of God?

To love God fully means that a person will remain devoted to the heart of God and will serve those in need.

See Deuteronomy 10:12-13 and Micah 6:8 for a more in-depth answer to this question.

What does this look like in our lives today?

To act justly means _____

To love mercy means _____

To walk humbly with God means _____

Let this be a time to foster discussion about what it truly means to do these things in our present time. Encourage your group to give practical examples.

How would Jesus answer these questions? Give some examples using His life.

The Parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37)

Jesus eats with the tax collectors (Mark 2:13-17)

Jesus heals the paralytic (Mark 3:1-6)

Jesus heals the sick (Matthew 4:23-25)

Jesus has mercy on the adulterous woman (John 8:1-11)

Also see Matthew 25:31-46.

Application

Knowing God is not only about our personal relationship with Him. It is also about how we share His love with the world. This involves caring for the poor, needy, sick, hungry, the oppressed, widowed, orphaned, etc.

How are you sharing the love of Christ with those mentioned above?

CHALLENGE!

Spend time in prayer this week, asking God how you can begin/continue to share the love of Christ with these people. Then do something about it.