

**Study Guide - “*Summer Camp Romance*” - Pastor Jason Baugh,
6-10-2018**

Key Scriptures:

“So all the people broke off the golden earrings which were in their ears, and brought them to Aaron. And he received the gold from their hand, and he fashioned it with an engraving tool, and made a molded calf. Then they said, ‘This is your god, O Israel, that brought you out of the land of Egypt!’”

(Exodus 32:3-4)

- James 1:5-8 “...he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.”
- Genesis 6:9 “Noah was a just man, perfect in his generations. Noah walked with God.”
- Matthew 6:34 Jesus - “Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.”
- Romans 1:20-22 “...although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened.”

Start Talking:

- Have you ever had a summer camp romance - such as having gone to a marriage conference or ministry weekend? While there, and shortly after, you were so excited and encouraged, only to have that confidence fade and things to go back to the way they were before you went. Share.
- How much of your personal prayer time addresses only problems?
- Read James 1:5-8. Have you ever let your mind go directly back to worrying immediately after you finish praying? How does someone stop doubting, and pray in faith? How does someone live by faith?
- Read Matthew 21:21. Does Jesus expect us to overcome doubts, or just to live with them as part of life? Discuss.

Start Thinking:

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- Re-read Exodus 32:4. What are some of the “gods” or idols that people worship? How would your life be changed if you realized and appreciated all that God does in the background of your life every day? Discuss.
- Genesis 6:9 reads, “Noah was a just man, perfect in his generations. Noah walked with God.” He was the man God saved from the flood. So, has it ever surprised you that Noah got intoxicated after the flood? Does this say something about just Noah or about being human generally? Discuss.

Start Sharing:

- Read Matthew 6:34. How many of our worries (prayer requests) are about things that are not presently upon us - off in the future? Wouldn't our prayer lives be simpler and less intense if we prayed only about immediate issues? What kind of prayer life does God want for you? Share.
- Read Romans 1: 18-23. According to verse 21, isn't unthankfulness a sign of the lost? As Christians, are we thankful enough? What distracts us from realizing how much we need to express out thankfulness to the Lord?
- What are some methods or practices that you could employ which would help you remember God's past faithfulness to you?

Start Praying:

“Lord, help us to remember that You are always there with us, and that You deserve our attention and dependence. We are ready to trust You with the simple things and the most complex and troublesome issues of life. We open our inner parts to You. Help us to change into deeper worshippers. In Jesus' name.”

Start Doing:

- “God with Us” - Have you ever been afraid and wanted someone just to be there with you? Do you realize that God is there in good times and times of trouble? Why do some people lean on other things besides the all-powerful God who is all-present?

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- Does God want you to keep drowning, or to learn how to swim through life? What are some practical ways you can attend God’s coaching classes?
- Are your intimate prayer times a regular part of your everyday life, or like a summer camp romance? Is a deeper personal relationship with God up to Him or you? (Read Revelation 3:20) Are you opening the door?