



Group Discussion Questions

Reaching Forward - February 20 | February 23, 2020

Group Discussion: Do you have any positive slogans that you repeat to yourself internally?

Read: Joshua 7 & 8

The progression of despair:

- Questioning God, "...why did you..." Can you think of one small example of doing this that you can share with your group?
- Regretting choices, "If only..." This is often called second guessing, can you think of a time when you second guessed yourself?
- Exaggerating failure, "...routed..." Do you ever exaggerate failure? Share one example.
- Predicting disaster, "...wipe out..." In the newspaper world the slogan was, "If it bleeds it leads!" When I was in Jr. High, we were entering a new ice age, then over-population, now it's global warming, do you think our culture glorifies predictions of gloom and doom. Despair's conclusion: "My failure is final," is a self-fulfilling prophecy! Can you think of any famous comeback stories from athletics or another field?

God's response to all Joshua's negativity is, "Rise up! Why is it that you have fallen on your face?" Do you ever feel like you have to stay down on your face groveling before God so that He will forgive you? Do you feel like you have to ask forgiveness over and over again so that it will really happen?

Read: Hebrews 13:5

What does God never leaving us or forsaking us have to do with the love of money? From where do you get your sense of security? Which would you give up first your bank account or your church?

Read: Romans 8:31-39

Vs. 32 says that God gives to us His most valuable possession, His Son, what else could he give us that would be more valuable? If you could ask God for anything, what would it be? Vs. 35 asks the question, "Who shall separate us from the Love of Christ?" and the answer is nothing can! Who did you express love to on Valentine's Day and what did you do for them? Vs. 37 says, "...we conquer through Him who loved us." People conquer others through military weapons, economic pressure or cyber warfare, but Paul says we conquer through Jesus who loves us. Vs. 38-39 tells us what we conquer, we conquer separation from God and His love. Do you fear being separated from God?

Family Time: Play hide and go seek with your kids and ask them why it's so much fun to hide. Tell them how Achan hid treasure that he stole and that God says that's wrong.