



Discussion Questions

Joel 2:18-32

Sermon: God Hears When His People Repent

- ❖ **Yahweh Reverses Judgment (Joel 2:18-27)**
 - Yahweh is jealous for his people and land. (vv. 18-20)
 - Yahweh restores and renews his people when they repent. (vv. 21-27)
 - **Question:** In what ways in your own life has God restored you from devastation that has occurred? Do you recognize that your provisions and flourishing come from God and not yourself?
- ❖ **Yahweh Pours Out His Presence (Joel 2:28-32)**
 - Yahweh provides the abundance of his presence to his restored people. (vv. 28-29)
 - The Day of the Lord comes as a day of salvation for the repentant. (vv. 30-32)
 - **Question:** How does the promised outpouring of God's Spirit on his people shape how you view your life, calling, and purpose?
- ❖ **Bottom Line: Repentance unleashes restoration, renewal, and hope.**

Understanding Scripture

1. **Read the passage aloud.**
 - **Question:** How would the original audience have understood this passage?
 - **Question:** What was God's desire for them?
2. **Reread key verse(s) aloud.**
 - **Question:** What does this teach us about the human soul, desires, or behavior?
 - **Question:** What does this teach us about the nature, desires, or behavior of God?
3. **Ask if anything is difficult to understand in the passage, or simply point it out yourself.**
 - i. Back up from the confusing verse and reread the whole section slowly—highlight the author's flow of thought.
 - ii. Ask everyone, "What are some possible interpretations?" Encourage curiosity!
 - iii. If needed, provide clarification, but admit if you don't have a satisfactory explanation, and volunteer to research answers. Share your findings over text or at the next meeting.
4. **Summarize the passage in 1-3 sentences to refocus the group ("Okay, so far we've seen Joel...")**
 - **Question:** What does this say about our relationship with God and/or each other?
 - **Question:** How do the teachings, actions, or person of Jesus shed light on this passage?

Applying Scripture

5. **Allow free-flowing discussion, incorporating questions focused on heart and habit transformation.**
 - **Joel 2:18-20** | What do you think when you read or hear about God and His jealousy for His people? How does God's jealousy differ from human jealousy?
 - **Joel 2:21-27** | What does God's promise in these verses show us about his restorative power? When have you experienced restoration like this in your life?
 - **Joel 2:28-29** | Have you ever felt unqualified or overlooked being a part of the body of Christ? How do these verses challenge those thoughts/feelings? Is there someone in your life that needs to be encouraged by the words found in these verses?
 - **Joel 2:30-32** | How does the promise "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved" give you confidence in your faith? Are you able to rest confidently in this promise? How does it give you a sense of urgency when it comes to your unbelieving family members, friends, or co-workers?
 - **Application** | How can you actively live in repentance this week? What area of your heart is God calling you to "rend"? Is there sin in your life that is weighing you down? When, where, and with whom can you create a space to confess these sins and bring them to light?