Group Questions - Joshua 21 - WE ARE... a City of Refuge

Share a time in life when you helped someone else feel safe and secure.

How does it make you feel when you are able to do that for others?

Jesus is a "city of refuge". We, as the body of Christ, are also "cities of refuge". But, we are also all called, as followers of Jesus, to be individual "cities of refuge".

Read – Deuteronomy 10:8-9

Why was the tribe of Levi the only tribe to not receive an inheritance of land?

Read – Joshua 21:1-3

What are the Levites asking for?

Why do you think God commanded the Israelites to give cities to the Levites?

<u>Read</u> – Joshua 21:4-8, 41-42

48 Levite cities were evenly scattered throughout Israel

Levites were PRIESTS... "A priest is someone with special personal access to God, who can usher others into right standing with God."

What does it reveal, that God wanted these cities of PRIESTS evenly scattered throughout Israel?

<u>Read</u> – 1 Peter 2:5, 9-10

According to God's word, who are PRIESTS today?

How is it possible for us to be PRIESTS?

The 1st part of being a PRIEST means we have...

"special personal access to God"

Over 1500 years only 83 High Priests were able to enter into God's presence.

<u>Read</u> – Hebrews 4:16 - Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

What does this tell us about our ability to enter into God's presence today?

Do you think we take this for granted? Why or why not?

The 2nd part of being a PRIEST means we...

"usher others into right standing with God."

What is your reaction to this 2nd part of YOU being a PRIEST?

Pastor Nate mentioned that we might not feel qualified to be a PRIEST

What might make us feel unqualified to be a PRIEST?

Read - 1 Peter 4:11 - "If anyone ministers, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies"

What does this verse teach us about the ABILITY we have to minister?

The Levite cities were spread throughout Israel.

How does this relate to our lives as being PRIESTS?

Read - Matthew 5:14-16

In these verses, what does Jesus tell us regarding being "PRIESTS"?

Read - Ephesians 4:11

According to these verses, whose responsibility is it to do the work of ministry?

Close in prayer asking God to give us all the ability to minister with the ability He supplies!