

Group Discussion Guide

Week of December 12, 2021

Weary World Rejoice – God With Us

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

- Share a time you went through something difficult, but it was made easier because someone was going through it with you.
- Why do you think it's easier to handle difficult things when you have someone going through it with you?

QUICK REVIEW

Looking over your notes from this past teaching... was there anything you heard for the first time, caught your attention, challenged you, or confused you?

MAIN POINT

While we look forward to the return of Jesus, we can also experience the benefit of having GOD WITH US now.

DIGGING INTO THE WORD

Read – Matthew 1:18-23

- How did Jesus fulfill the prophecy that Matthew refers to?
- Jesus was certainly “WITH” the people of His day, but how is it possible for Jesus to still be WITH US today?

Read – John 14:18

- What do you think Jesus is referring to here?

Read – John 14:16

- How is this promise a fulfillment of “GOD WITH US”?

- How do you personally experience the Holy Spirit helping you in your life?

Read – Hebrews 13:5-6

- What do these verses claim are the results for those people who know that God is WITH THEM?

Read – Psalm 23

- What does David say were the results of knowing that God was WITH HIM?
- In contrast... what are some of the negative results of thinking God is NOT WITH YOU?
- Which would you prefer... the mindset mentioned in Hebrews 13 and Psalm 23, or the mindset mentioned as the thoughts of a person who does not think God is with them?

Read – Daniel 3:19-25

- Why do you think these 3 young men had such courage and boldness in the face of an incredible threat from the most powerful man in the land?
- When was God with them? BEFORE... AFTER... or DURING the fire?
- When is God with you? BEFORE... AFTER... or DURING the fire?
- Why do you think they could only “see” God with them IN the fire?
- Can you share a time when you experienced a special manifestation of God WITH YOU during a “fiery” trial in your life?
- Why do you think God often shows up in special ways during difficult times in our lives?
- How can this understanding help you to have more courage and boldness in your life?

TAKING IT HOME

- In what specific area of your life, or situation you are going through right now, do you need to hold on to the understanding that God is WITH YOU?

PRAISE & PRAYER REQUESTS