



Message Devotional & Discussion Questions

6/9/2024

MESSAGE: Urgency Trap

WEEK#5

SERIES: Jesus Story: Healing, Hurts, & Heresy

COMMUNICATOR: Pastor Stephen Masters, Matt Harder

CHECKIN' IN: How is your week? What was one of the highlights? Share wins (things God did that moved his mission forward and you closer to Jesus). What did you put into practice from last week's Devotional & Discussion?

THINK, DISCUSS, LIVE: These questions work well individually or in a group setting to encourage spiritual growth, engage in biblical community and live it in the world around you.

1. Would you rather: Be in a place that is totally quiet or a place that is full of noise? Attend a rock concert or at a piano recital? Watching at a shooting range or reading a book in a library? Why did you pick your choices?
2. When you ask someone how they are doing, what is their typical answer? ("Fine, good, stressed, busy, something else"?) How do you define "busy"?
3. If you had to plan a day of solitude and total silence and could go anywhere in the world, where would you go and what would you do during that 24 hours? Would this be a welcome experience or would it absolutely drive you crazy? Tell us why.
4. Even Jesus took naps, once in the rear of a boat during a storm. Where is the strangest or most creative place you took a nap? If you aren't a nap taker what do you do to get yourself recharged?
5. Read Mark 1:35-37; Luke 4:42. Why was it important for Jesus to spend quality time alone with The Father? What are some reasons why it is such a challenge for people to spend alone time with God? What would you say is your biggest life distraction or time consumer?
6. "How we spend our time (and money) is evidence of what we value." Would you say this statement is true for you? What good things in your schedule could you remove so you could focus on better or more excellent things?
7. What does it typically look like for you when spending alone time with God? What do you do? What do you hope to achieve from your time with God?
8. Read Luke 10:38:42. If a large group showed up to your house last minute for a meal how would you respond? Would it be more like Martha or Mary? Do you think Martha was wrong in her response to the situation? Why or why not? If your response was like Mary's would the meal preparations get done? How does your life and times with Jesus exemplify this story?
9. We either forget or don't understand how much God desires to spend time with us. Read 1 John 1:5-10. John makes some very strong statements about those who follow Jesus. Which statement encouraged you? Which statement is a challenge for you? How will you specifically respond to the passage you just read?



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10. **TRUTH DEMANDS A RESPONSE!** What is one action step you will take this week in response to our discussion or nudge from the Holy Spirit? Be specific.

2024 TRANSFORMATION CHALLENGE: We have created some resources to help you grow. Check out the *Experience God* page. Go to canvas.church/experience-god or *Experience God* on the Canvas App., read the "Make Me Better" section, start a new discipline, (Silence and Solitude), try a new Bible engagement tool, or help someone go further on their faith journey. Let us know how it's going.

INDIVIDUAL AND GROUP PRAYER OPTIONS:

Challenge yourself and or your group to pray out loud. It may just be a sentence or two of something you thank God for, or ask God to bless and answer someone's prayer request.

1. We pray because we believe God can and will answer our prayers.
 2. We pray for each other out of obedience to God and out of love for each other.
 3. We pray out loud for each other so everyone will be blessed and encouraged.
- **On your own:** Pray out loud a Psalm, Ephesians 1 or another Bible passage.
 - **Prayer Question:** "What's going on in our lives that we can involve Jesus?"
 - **Ask:** What was one praise and one challenge you experienced this week? Celebrate the praises and pray for the challenges.
 - **Ask** if anyone has a need or knows of a need, you can also offer "unspoken" prayer requests.
 - **Pray for the person on your right, it can be out loud or in silence,** if in silence nudge the person next to you letting them know you are done.
 - **Prayer Clusters:** Groups of two or three (by gender) and share your week together. Pray together and for each other. Send them a text, or leave a message letting them know you have prayed for them this week.
 - **Have someone in your group keep an active list of the requests and the answers for both the updates and to celebrate the answers.**

Are you interested in the Bible and in helping Life Groups benefit from the weekend message? We have a team for you! Canvas members like you create these discussion guides each week. If you are interested in joining the team, please email rickz@canvas.church



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