



Message Devotional & Discussion Questions

7/21/2024

MESSAGE: Do You Desire God?

WEEK#4

SERIES: Jesus Story: Beatitudes

COMMUNICATOR: Pastor Josh Ramsey/Jordan Hodges

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. What is your "go to" snack of choice? Do you lean more towards salty or sweet snack food?
 2. If you were super hungry...Would you rather dine fast food, sit down at a restaurant, eat at a buffet or eat at home? What is the name of the place you would dine?
 3. Aren't you glad God wired us to be hungry? What are the physical characteristics of being physically hungry? What would you say are the spiritual characteristics of being hungry for God?
 4. Read Matthew 5:6. Some Bible translations read, "shall be filled" or "they will be satisfied". What do you think this filling or satisfaction means for the Jesus follower? Do you think this filling or satisfaction is for now, later (heaven), or both and?
 5. On a scale of 1-10 and ten being highest...What would be the spiritual characteristics of a person who has a "10" relationship with God and one who has a "2" relationship with God? What would you say are the key differences between the two? Where would you place yourself on this scale?
 6. How does Matthew 6:33 encourage us to seek God? What level of intensity do you think "Seeking first the kingdom of God" involves? What is the promised result if one does put the Kingdom first?
 7. Read and discuss Matthew 7:7-11. What is Jesus saying regarding prayer? What do you think Jesus means by "asking, seeking and knocking"? How does verses 9-11 reveal God's heart for you and or how he answers prayer?
 8. Read Psalm 17:4. What is desired and sought after here? Why do you think this is desirable for a Jesus follower?
 9. Discuss what you think heaven is like? What do you think you will do there? What promises from the Bible do you know and or hold onto regarding heaven?
 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.
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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, 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.
- **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