

Sermon Discussion Questions

Contagious Expectation – Matt Slocum
Sermon Text: Matthew 21:1-11
by Jody Dunivent

AGENDA

- Allow people to arrive, talk, and snack – 15 min
- Thank everyone for coming. Open in prayer – 30 sec
- Worship – 5-10 min
- Icebreaker question – 10-20 min
- Discussion Questions – 35-45 min
- Prayer – 20-30 min

INTRODUCTION

For Jewish people, Passover is the culmination of the year. It is the oldest religious meal in human history. Let's explore what Matt has to say about Passover and our understanding of why we take the bread and cup in our gatherings, also.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (35-45 min)

1. Last week we reflected on the traditions and Jesus's reshaping of the Passover meal. How did you participate in the body of Jesus this past week?
2. What part of this week's message rang true or was most interesting to you?
3. Disappointment happens when we don't understand expectations. Additionally, the expectation of what's going to happen is contagious. Share a time when you "caught" someone else's expectations. Was the outcome what you expected? Or were you disappointed?
4. Over the story of the Bible we see the Jewish people's expectation of the Messiah develop. When Jesus entered Jerusalem and proclaimed Himself to be that Messiah, He was not what the people expected. How have your expectations of Who God is and what He is going to do changed over your faith journey?
5. Jesus's death and resurrection has freed us from the power and penalty of sin, but we still live with the presence of sin in our world and the pattern of sin on our minds. How do we approach this truth in our day-to-day lives?

Icebreakers

Pick one of the icebreaker questions below and go around in a circle (starting with the leader) and have everyone answer. (If you have new members or guests have each person introduce themselves.)

1. As a child, what was your dream job?
2. Would you rather sing like a rock star or cook like a gourmet chef?
3. What's one task in your life that you would NEVER trust a robot to do?

APPLICATION

The main thing the devil uses to destroy your faith is disappointment; the main thing God uses to build your faith is disappointment. Throughout this week, as expected outcomes may not align with actual outcomes, refocus your mind on the bigger picture to see where God is working.

PRAYER (20-30 min)

Ask for prayer requests. Pray that we will be set free from our preconceived ideas of what and who we think God is and realize he is who he says he is.

COMING UP

To join a small group, sign up at vckceast.com or at one of the weekend services. Study materials are available to download on the church website (<https://vckceast.com>) or on the Facebook page.

Men's Breakfast – 16 April (8:00-9:30) at Red Apple Diner

Men's Retreat – 28-30 April (<https://www.harvestvc.org/vineyard-mens-retreat>)

Women's Retreat – 6-7 May (<https://nwckc.com/women>)

Middle and High School Camp – 31 May-3 June

FINAL THOUGHT

Expectation is contagious.