

Sermon Discussion Questions

Catching Heaven – Matt Slocum

23 April 2023

Sermon Text: Mark 8:35-42

By: Jody Dunivent

AGENDA

- People arrive, talk, snack, and icebreaker – 5 min
- Worship – 5-10 min
- Prayer/Ministry Time – 20 min
- Discussion Questions – 35-45 min

PRAYER/MINISTRY TIME (20-30 min)

Ask for prayer requests. Ask for specific needs of group members.

MESSAGE INTRODUCTION

In this week's message titled **Catching Heaven**, Pastor Matt discusses the reality that in Christ we have everything we need to fully restore what is broken, diseased, and dead. We will discuss what that means for the life of the believer and how we can impact those around us.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (35-45 min)

1. Last week you were asked to practice the skill of listening to God. How did you do this? Share what He said.
2. Negativity bias is our tendency to focus on the negative over the positive in our lives. In what areas of your life do you find yourself giving in to this bias?
3. While the world focuses on the problem, scripture focuses on the solution. How can you look at the areas you identified above from this heavenly perspective?
4. Leviticus 11:44-45 tells us we must be Qadosh (holy, set apart, unique), or "clean", to be in the presence of God. Numbers chapter 5 explains how a person can become unclean. Have you found yourself putting a greater emphasis on certain sins over others?
5. Read Mark 1:35-42. The leprous man asks Jesus if He is willing to become unclean in order to make the man clean. Are you willing to associate with those whose sins seem especially bad to you in order to show them Jesus?

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. What's the best thing you've read in the last five years?
2. What's your favorite karaoke song?
3. Is a hot dog a sandwich?

6. In the old world, the unclean defiled the clean. In the new world, the clean purifies the unclean. What does this look like practically for you?

APPLICATION

As you go through this week, remember that you take God with you wherever you go. Keep an eye out for the ways in which the unclean becomes clean in His presence.

COMING UP

To join a small group or find out more about what is going on at NWC, go to <https://nwckc.com> or the New Wine Church Community Group Facebook page. Study materials are also available on the website or Facebook page.

Men's Vineyard Regional Retreat, 27-29 April 2023, Riverside Bible Camp, Story City, IA. See website for registration details. <https://nwckc.com/men>
Selah Women's Retreat, 5-6 May 2023, Heartland Retreat Center, Parkville, MO

FINAL THOUGHT

**When we live with a negative focus as kingdom people, we become problem fighters.
instead of solution carriers.**