



COMMUNITY Groups

December 3rd, 2023 – Sermon Discussion Questions

ICEBREAKER

1. Do highs and lows from this past week!
2. Growing up or when you were newer to faith, were you ever afraid of God? How so or how not?

DIG A LITTLE DEEPER

1. Review the message –
 - a. What stood out to you from Eric’s message on Sunday? What was a key takeaway or two that you had?
 - b. What questions do you still have about “The Day of the Lord” and how the New Covenant fits in with the Old?
2. Read Exodus 19:16-25
 - a. What was the significance of what is happening in these verses? How do the events of this passage fit into the larger story of scripture?
 - b. What would you have been feeling if you were at the base of Mount Sinai as these events took place, and why? After you answer, have someone read Exodus 20:18-19.
 - c. How do we reconcile an intense passage like this about God’s power and holiness with the gracious and loving Father we know today? How do you wrestle and make peace with the apparent tension between God’s holiness and his compassion?
3. Read Matthew 27:45-54
 - a. What parallels do you see between this account of Jesus’ crucifixion and the giving of the law at Mount Sinai? What do you think these parallels mean and why do you think they are important to Matthew who is recording this for us?
 - b. What do the details of these verses and the events they describe tell us about the significance of Jesus’ death on the cross? What did Jesus’ death accomplish? What impact did it have? Use specific verses to support your observations.
 - c. What effect does reading these 2 passages from Exodus and Matthew back-to-back have on you? On your view of God? On your own personal relationship with God?
4. Read Hebrews 12:14-29
 - a. What specific verses or ideas stand out to you from this passage, and why? On the one hand, how do the ideas in Hebrews 12 reinforce what we’ve already discussed from Exodus and Matthew? On the other hand, how do they add to it?
 - b. How do you think the writer of Hebrews would have us think about holiness and fear as we follow Jesus? How should we live and conduct ourselves in light of what we read here in Hebrews?

CLOSING

1. What is one way you want to live differently this next week because of what we’ve read and discussed? What is a next step you want to take in your worship or obedience?
2. Pray for one another – with reverence, awe, and thanksgiving.