

Icebreaker

Talk about a time when you narrowly avoided a mess in your life. What helped you avoid it?

Passage 1 1 Samuel 24:1–13

In the passage, it would have been easy for David to assume that God delivered Saul into his hands, but he chose restraint. When you're addressing a mess, It may be difficult to tell the difference between your emotions and desires and God's will for you? Pastor Chris taught that the way you respond and address the a mess will ultimately determine your story.

Reflection How would David had been known for if he had actually killed Saul? What was David known for since he showed him mercy?

Is it difficult for you to believe that when you choose virtue, God takes responsibility for the outcome of the journey? Why or why not?

What is one thing in your life, large or small, you wish there was a quick fix for? Why is a quick fix so attractive?

Passage 2 Proverbs 4

Proverbs is known as the book of wisdom. The way to know the difference between making a decision based on your will or God's will is found in the book of Proverbs. In this passage we will learn how to discern between our emotions and God's desires.

Reflection In your opinion what is the most important thing parents can teach their children?

What is one of the central messages of these verses?

How do wisdom and understanding bring life and health to a person?

What areas of my life do I need to guard my heart better?

Passage 3 2 Peter 1:3-11

Take a moment to dwell on what Peter says in these verses. As believers, we have everything required for life and godliness. Everything. Nothing is lacking. The Spirit of power living in us gives us all the spiritual tools we need to live the holy, mature lives that Christ expects. Moreover, whenever we make a mess, God has given us the cleaning products to wipe and clean it up.

ReflectionWhat two conditions are needed in order to bear fruit for the
Lord? v.8What three ways does he describe those that lack these
qualities? v.9What two things are we to be diligent doing? v.10Is it possible for a Christian not to stumble? What is needed to
do this? v.10What is the result of those who practice these things? v.11

Application

It is much easier to clean a smaller mess than a larger mess. One of the ways of not having to clean up a mess is by avoiding making it bigger than what it already is. The only way to know whether we are making a mess larger or smaller is by following God's word and by praying for God's wisdom and discernment.

What is one thing you can do this week to begin to hear God's voice? How can this group support you and hold you accountable?