

eGroup Questions

February 16, 2020

Verse: Obadiah

PRAY

Begin your group study with an opening prayer. Acknowledge the presence of the Holy Spirit, who serves as a teacher as you gather.

REVIEW

What truth did you discover in the previous lesson? Did it transform how you live your life in any way? Even if it was small.

CONNECT

In this lesson, we are looking at the book of Obadiah. As a group, share your thoughts on the following questions.

Have you ever experienced a time when you were betrayed or deceived by a fellow brother or sister in the faith? How did you feel when you discovered the betrayal? Were you able to reconcile with the other party or is this still a place of pain today? Looking back, how would you go about doing things differently?

OBSERVE

Read your selected passage out loud as a group. While you read, take note of details, words, or phrases that jump off the page. Take a moment to share your findings with the group.

DISCUSS

One of Edom's major sins was their pride. They thought their political alliances and fortified cities guaranteed their safety and well-being. However, Obadiah says their pride had deceived them. In what ways can our pride lead us into a false sense of security? What things do believers today see as their "safety net" against hardship or judgment?

Edom was guilty of sinning against their brother, Judah, by selling them into slavery and siding with their enemies. While we may not be selling our brothers into slavery, at times, we are guilty of cheering on the downfall of our Christian brothers and sisters. What motivates some believers today to begrudge other Christians? Have there been times in your life when you rejoiced over a church member's misfortune because you felt they were getting what they deserved?

How should we address fellow believers we know are harbouring such attitudes against other Christians? One of the unfortunate realities of today is that prominent Christians sometimes have very public downfalls. What does Obadiah teach us about how we, as Christians, should respond to the failures of these leaders? How should we respond to our unbelieving friends who feel this is more proof of the hypocrisy of Christianity?

Obadiah mentions how God rules and reigns over the nations. However, like Edom, we tend to create our own kingdoms where we feel secure and ignore the fact that God rules over us. What are some of the kingdoms that believers today have established? How do believers act in these kingdoms that demonstrate their independence from God's reign? How can Emmanuel avoid becoming like a kingdom that behaves as if God is not King?

Every one of God's people serves a part of the building of God's kingdom in and through Emmanuel. What role do you personally play in making Emmanuel a church where God reigns? How can we, as a body of believers, advance the building of Emmanuel into the future for God's glory?

MAIN IDEA

In one to three sentences, summarize your main take-away from this lesson. Share your thoughts with the group.

PRAY

Now that you have finished your study, take this opportunity to pray together as a group. Feel free to collect any prayer needs from the group members.