

“The Walking In-Between”

Growth Group Discussion Zechariah

Begin with prayer. Invite the Holy Spirit to speak to you all through God’s word, and to lead your discussion.

Opening Questions (try to get everyone involved in discussion):

- What is one mountaintop experience you’ve had? What made it so special?
- To what degree do you agree with this line from Ben Rector’s song, “I Like You,” which says, “Life is not the mountaintops; it’s the walking in-between.”
- Where do you find yourself in life right now—on a mountaintop, in a deep valley, or somewhere in between?
- How easy or hard are you finding it to serve God faithfully, endure your circumstances, and find joy in the present?

1. To get oriented to the book of Zechariah, read the following passages and discuss the questions that follow.

- Ezra 5:1-2.
 - What do you remember about life in Judah at this time?
 - Life in Judah wasn’t what the returned exiles had expected it to be. Are there aspects of your current life are less than what you had expected them to be?
 - What impact does it seem that Zechariah’s ministry had?
- Zechariah 1:1-6
 - How would you summarize God’s instructions for his people here?

2. Read Zechariah 4:1-10, then discuss the following.

- What do you think is the overarching point of this vision? Who was it intended to directly impact?
 - What aspects of this vision are puzzling to you? Can your group help to shed light?
- What’s the big point of v. 6? Why was it especially pertinent to Zerubbabel and the others involved in rebuilding?
 - Pastor Josh said that **if you’re a follower of Jesus, have the power of the Holy Spirit to fuel you in the present, wherever you find yourself.**
 - What area of this life does this message speak to most at present?
- How would you describe the point of v. 10? Why did it seem like a “day of small things?”
 - Pastor Josh said on Sunday that **small things are big things to God.** How can this be true?
 - Do you find this point easy or hard to believe?
 - In what specific activities might this idea impact your life this week?

3. Read Zechariah 14:6-9, then discuss the following.

- One of Zechariah's big messages is that God's chosen King is still coming, and there will be a day when no one will challenge his rule. How was this message supposed to have impacted the Jews in Judah during Zechariah's day?
- Compare this passage with Revelation 22:1-5. What similarities do you see? What differences?
 - In what ways did Jesus fulfil God's promises through Zechariah in his first coming? What aspects of the promises still remain to be fulfilled?
- **Application:** Practically speaking, how does this promise for the future impact your present?
 - Josh claimed that **future hope enables present faithfulness**. Have you found this to be true? How does it work in practice?

Sharing/Prayer

- As always, take some time to share areas where you need people to pray for you. Spend time praying for one another.
- Pray also for the hope of Jesus' return to impact your group's lives in the present.