

Dig Deeper @Home – “Resident Aliens”

Complement to sermon on 6/24/18 – “For the Good of Others”

ICE BREAKER – ask these to open dialogue and learn more about those gathered

1. What’s your favorite drink after exerting yourself? (ie after a workout, sports, hard work)
2. If you had an afternoon to do whatever you wanted, what would it be and why? (For the sake of this question, you can make the weather whatever you desire for this day)

MEMORIZE – 1 Peter 2:9-10

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

READ – Daniel 7, 10-12

Questions to ponder/discuss:

1. What does this passage reveal about God? About humanity?
2. If the above is true, what needs to change in your life?
3. The vision of Daniel 7 is in parallel to the vision of Daniel 2. Compare/contrast these two visions.
4. In Daniel 7 we get a description of the kingdom given to the “Son of Man.” What do we know about this kingdom? (hints: Daniel 7: 13-14). How does this compare with kingdoms of this world?
5. Daniel is written in a genre known as “apocryphal” (specifically the visions in chapters 10-12). Apocryphal writing is meant to encourage the reader, reminding them that no matter what is going on around you, God is sovereign and in control. As you read through chapters 11 and 12, identify phrases or sentences that show that God is in control. (hint: one way of doing this is to look for the passive verb uses for example in 11:4 it says “his kingdom shall be plucked up and go to others”)
6. Some people think Daniel 10-12 is a prophecy about the end times that can be solved to determine when Christ will come back. Read Daniel 12: 8-11 and see for yourself. If not a code to be cracked, what is the main takeaway? (hint: v10)
7. God is sovereign and in control. What in your life seems chaotic and out of control? How can you find rest, security and encouragement from Daniel 11-12?

Summarize Daniel 7, 10-12 in two sentences or less:

Experiential- “21 Day Fast”

<https://www.bible.com/reading-plans/35-21-day-fast>

“And I have come because of your words” (Daniel 10:12). We believe that our prayers are powerful because God Himself responds to them. Complete a 21 day fast using the above link as the guide. As you do, keep track of how Christ transforms you and those around you.

Testimony Time – What was something that caused you to mourn and turn to God in prayer? What was God’s response to your prayer and mourning?

SING (suggested songs to sing. Use these or any song you might want to sing)

Grace so Glorious - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-MVM4ss9OFo>

As you worship, reflect on God’s holiness and your sinfulness and God’s great love which forgives, heals and restores you.

My Hope is Built on Nothing Less– Mennonite Hymnal #558

A hymn of praise to the solid rock of Jesus who is our ultimate hope now and when he returns.

PRAY

This is a time to gather around for prayer requests and to share how you have seen God at work. A time to hear where God is showing up in our lives and where we need Him to help us in our lives.

Sending prayer based on the lesson:

Gracious Father, we praise you for your great love and for your eagerness to answer our prayers. You do so not because we are righteous but because you are merciful. And in your great mercy You hear, You see, You forgive, and You act mightily. In Jesus Name, Amen.