

Dig Deeper @Home – “Kingdom People”

Complement to lesson on 12/27/2020 – “Living as Kingdom People”

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

1. What blessing or gift has God given you recently that you did not deserve? How do you respond to unmerited goodness?
2. Has anyone gone back on a promise to you? How did it make you feel?

MEMORIZE – Jeremiah 32:38-40

And they shall be my people and I will be their God. I will give them one heart and one way, that they may fear me forever, for their own good and the good of their children after them. I will make with them an everlasting covenant, that I will not turn away from doing good to them. And I will put the fear of me in their hearts, that they may not turn from me.

READ Jeremiah 34

Questions to ponder/discuss:

1. What sticks out to you in this passage? What did you like? What didn't you like?
2. What general observations can you make? Anything repeated? Contrasted? Compared?
3. What is this passage revealing about God? About us as humans?
4. There are several covenants in the Bible, but five covenants are crucial for understanding the story of the Bible and God's redemptive plan: the Noachic Covenant (Genesis 9), the Abrahamic Covenant (Genesis 12 and 15), The Mosaic Covenant (Exodus 19 and 24, Deuteronomy 28-29), the Davidic Covenant (2 Samuel 7), and the New Covenant (Jeremiah 31:31-34 and Luke 22:14-23). What is important to observe about these covenants? What new thing did you learn about these covenants?
5. One ancient rite to “cut” a covenant had partners cut a calf in two and walk between the pieces. What might have been the significance of this? (vv. 18-20) See Genesis 15:8-11, 17
6. Read 2 Corinthians 5:14-21. In Jesus' death and resurrection, we see that true covenant faithfulness looks like self-giving love. When we receive, trust, and imitate the love of Jesus, we begin to live as the humans God created us to be. We can once again glimpse the beauty God had in mind when he first created and partnered with humanity. According to this passage, what does it look like to partner with God in his promise of a bringing the good news to all people?

Experiential activity – What is a Covenant?

Gather together with your group or family to watch this short video explaining the important term “covenants” in the Bible. You will find this *Bible Project* video at the following video link.

<https://youtu.be/8ferLlsvImI>

When you finish the video, ask the following questions. Before watching the video, how would you describe the biblical meaning of a covenant? Jot down your description. After watching the video, how did your understanding of covenants expand or change?

SING (Suggested songs to sing. Use these, or any favorites of the gathered group, to worship Jesus!)

King of My Heart - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RLXRzwdFIYw>

Jesus, Messiah – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f4whBsh9ovI>

Love divine, all loves excelling - Mennonite Hymnal #75

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:

Revelation 1:5-6 - Now, to him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood, and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father—to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever! Amen