

Community Groups - January 22, 2017

Getting Started (10 minutes)

Don't spend too much time here, but what has your understanding been of Jesus preaching to the spirits in this week's passage? There are a lot of different views and you may see this reflected in your discussion!

Talking it Through (25 minutes):

1. Review the sermon from Sunday. What was the main text and the main point? What was the sermon all about?
2. Re-read 1 Peter 3:18-22. What was the connection to what Peter has been saying in 2:11-3:17?
3. Sometimes people reference 1 Peter 3:21 to say the act of baptism saves. What do you think Peter is saying in this verse? What is emphasized as the means of salvation? Consider Romans 10:9-13 as you discuss.

Taking it Further (15 minutes)

4. We talked about how our suffering can help the lost see Jesus more clearly. Can you think of an example outside the Bible when somebody's suffering convinced others of the truth of Jesus?
5. What is the relationship between passion and a willingness to suffer? Consider the following verses and their surrounding context: Colossians 2:24, Romans 8:18, Romans 15:16.

Taking it Home (10 minutes)

Read Floyd McClung's words on Apostolic Passion (passion for God's mission to the nations—The Great Commission):

I know when apostolic passion has died in my heart. It happens when I don't spend my quiet time dreaming of the time when Jesus will be worshiped in languages that aren't yet heard in heaven. I know it's missing from my life when I sing about heaven, but live as if earth is my home. Apostolic passion is dead in my heart when I dream more about sports, toys, places to go and people to see, than I do about the nations worshiping Jesus. I have lost it, too, when I make decisions based on the danger involved, not the glory God will get.

When you think about suffering, specifically suffering because of righteousness, are there areas where you compromise in order to avoid suffering? What things occupy your dreams and motivate your decisions? Is heaven or earth the dominating factor?

Time to Pray (10 minutes)

Take time to share prayer requests that relate to the people in your group, and then pray for those needs.

Christ's Victory is OUR Victory

I Peter 3:18-22 Pastor Tyler Pease

Next Sunday:

January 29, 2017

“Enough Already!

Embracing the Path to Maturity”

I Peter 4:1-6

(Pastor Jay Mosser)