

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

Written Word

Questions written by Scotty James
November 1, 2009



ANNOUNCEMENTS

This Sunday, Pastor Miles will be sharing from the pulpit that we are taking sign-ups for people interested in being a DO SOMETHING facilitator. If you or anyone in your group feels led to help us run our sign-up booth this Sunday, let us know. We can use you!

MEMORY VERSE

“All Scripture is given by the inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.” – 2 Timothy 3: 16-17

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS – BODY LANGUAGE- Written Word

GETTING STARTED

The Bible is the best selling book of all time, but have you ever read it in its entirety? Go around your group and see who has read it. If you have, share how long it took, and how much you feel you retained. If you haven't read it, share how much of it you have.

DIGGING DEEPER

1. The Bible is a compilation of 66 different books, written by 40 different authors, living on 3 different continents. That sounds pretty amazing! But what exactly is its purpose? Why was it written?
2. In 2nd Timothy, the Word says that all Scripture is inspired by God. What exactly does that mean?
3. Many times we read the Bible with the thought, “What can I get from this today?” Do you think this is the right approach to reading? Why or why not?
4. The Bible was written for us to learn about God. When we read with the above intent, we can turn the Word into something about **us**. **We** become the focus (“what can I get”). When we read with a heart that says, “God, what can I learn about **You** today?” who does the focus shift to? With this focus, will we still learn things that we can apply to our lives?
5. God's Word is Truth; He cannot go back on what He says. This is both good and bad. Why is it good and why is it bad?
6. In the sermon, the point was made that God's Word must be studied diligently. Why is this so important?

7. As a believer, it is important to know what God's Word says. How can we expect God to speak to us if we won't even read what He has already said? Read Genesis 3: 1-5. In the story, the serpent does two things. These 2 things are the same two things he still does to us today. What are they?
8. In his first statement, the serpent questions God's Word (ex. Did God really say that?). In his second statement, he questions the validity of God's Word (ex. You surely will not die!) This is a clear example of why we must be diligent to study God's Word, so that we may not sin against Him. If we are not diligent, what can happen?
9. Read Genesis 3: 6-7 and 22-24. What happened to Adam and Eve? Was Satan right, or did God's warning (read Genesis 2: 16-17) come true? What does that tell you about God's written and verbal word compared to Satan's word?
10. As seen from the example of Adam and Eve, God's written word (both written and verbal) is reliable. What He says comes true. Why then do we knowingly disobey it?
11. When we disobey God's Word, we either prove that we don't believe it or prove that we think we know better than He does. Do you agree or disagree? Why?
12. Though the benefits of reading the Bible are countless, it is still sometimes hard to take the effort to read it? Why do you think that is? Share with the group. Do you think there is something spiritual involved in our resistance/ lack of effort to study it?
13. God ultimately wants to take His words and write them on our hearts. What responsibility do we have in making this happen?

BRINGING IT HOME

“YOUR WORD I HAVE HIDDEN IN MY HEART, THAT I MIGHT NOT SIN AGAINST YOU.”
– PSALM 119: 11

1. Read the above verse. The writer has God's Word in his heart so that he can obey God. Part of getting God's word in your heart means you have to read it, and read it diligently, and with a purpose. This week, select a passage of Scripture your group wants to go through, and commit to spending time each day reading God's word. It can be a few verses a day, or a chapter a day, but commit to making it a priority to read His word.
2. This week, give each other a call mid-week to see how they are doing with their readings. Share any special verses or questions that you may have come across. Get His word in your heart!