

FRIENDSCHURCH

LIFE GROUP | DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

ANNIVERSARY WEEKEND

November 3-4, 2018

Main Idea:

God is faithful to us - and we will build Him up for the current and future generations

DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

1. When you look back at your life, what is the one unforgettable experience that you want to have told your kids about? Describe this experience to your group. (15 min)

2. Read the passage below, and discuss the following questions. (15 min)

Isaiah 41:10

So do not fear, for I am with you;

do not be dismayed, for I am your God.

I will strengthen you and help you;

I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

a) From this passage, what do you observe about why Israel is not to be afraid?

b) What would the Israelites have feared? What might God have been saving them from?

3. Read the passage below, and discuss the following questions. (15 min)

Psalms 45:17

I will perpetuate your memory through all generations;

therefore the nations will praise you for ever and ever.

a) How would the actions of God in the Isaiah passage inform the response of the Psalmist in this passage? What else might the Psalmist be referencing here?

b) What is the response of the world around the Psalmist when he perpetuates God's memory?

- 4. a. Where have you seen memorials (whether monuments, celebrations, or art) make a huge difference in the perspective of those who experience them? Reflect on your own personal experience with memorials and reminders. Are there any that particularly impacted you? (15 min)**
- b. What is one experience in your life right now that is causing you fear? How does knowing that God is with you affect this fear?**
- 5. Think about a season in your life where God proved his faithfulness. How did that experience impact you? What would it look like to tell the story of that experience to “future generations”? (15 min)**
- 6. Celebrating God’s faithfulness is not always easy - take some time right now to share what God is doing in your lives, or split into smaller groups to share and pray together. (10 min)**

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Leader Guide

1. **When you look back at your life, what is the one unforgettable experience that you want to have told your kids about? Describe this experience to your group. (15 min)**

This questions is designed to the get the conversation going. Encourage everyone in the group to participate, as the question should be light and easy enough for everyone to answer.

2. **Read the passage below, and discuss the following questions. (15 min)**

Isaiah 41:10

So do not fear, for I am with you;
do not be dismayed, for I am your God.
I will strengthen you and help you;
I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

- a) **From this passage, what do you observe about the reason for Israel not to be afraid?**
- b) **What would the Israelites have feared? What might God have been saving them from?**

For part a), some answers may include:

- "For I am with you"
- "I am your God"

For part b), encourage your group to open up their Bibles and look at the larger context of Isaiah 41:10. Context is always helpful in understanding what a single passage is referencing. A couple answers may include:

- *All those who rage against them (v. 11) - this could include individuals or nations that come against Israel*
- *Lack of provision (v. 17)*

3. **Read the passage below, and discuss the following questions. (15 min)**

Psalms 45:17

I will perpetuate your memory through all generations;
therefore the nations will praise you for ever and ever.

- a) **How would the actions of God in the Isaiah passage inform the response of the Psalmist in this passage? What else might the Psalmist be referencing here?**
- b) **What is the response of the world around the Psalmist when he perpetuates God's memory?**

For part a), the Psalmist is recounting God's faithfulness to the future generations. The entire Old Testament is written as a way to remember the actions of God to future generations. The Psalmist

knows that God was faithful to the Israelites, from the very beginning, and is most likely also connecting with his own personal experiences of God's faithfulness.

For part b), the nations will "praise God for ever and ever." Help the group unpack what that might look like through the next few questions.

- 4. a. Where have you seen memorials (whether monuments, celebrations, or art) make a huge difference in the perspective of those who experience them? Reflect on your own personal experience with memorials and reminders. Are there any that particularly impacted you? (15 min)**
- b. What is one experience in your life right now that is causing you fear? How does knowing that God is with you affect this fear?**

For this question, we are trying to get at the impact that monuments, memorials, and memories have in our current world. Encourage the group to think big picture (think "WWII monuments"), and small (a graduation), and everything in between.

As the group thinks about their own experiences with memorials, feel free to take the question deeper by asking your group to think about what sort of things they would want to be known for, and how it would impact future generations.

For 4b, spend time praying or make time at the end to pray for people to experience God's presence in the midst of the fear that they may have.

- 5. Think about a season in your life where God proved his faithfulness. How did that experience impact you? What would it look like to tell the story of that experience to "future generations"? (15 min)**

As a group, this is your chance to come alongside each other and celebrate what God has done. But for some in your group (maybe even you), it will be hard to see God's hand in your circumstances. Leave room for grief, doubt and questioning.

- 6. Celebrating God's faithfulness is not always easy - take some time right now to share what God is doing in your lives, or split into smaller groups to share and pray together. (10 min)**

Use this time to pray specifically for one another. As you share, listen to the Holy Spirit, seeing if there is anything particular to pray about for each other. Remember, we are not called to fix those who are in our group - we are called to love them, and ask the Holy Spirit to minister to them. Consider having a dedicated prayer time for those who are currently struggling.