Growth Group Homework

Reading the week of October 17-23, 2021

Discussing the week of October 17th

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

- 1. How do you most often experience silence?
- 2. Have you ever asked an ill-timed question or asked a foolish question that received a harsh reply?

GOING DEEPER

Looking back at your notes from this weekend's scripture reading and the sermon, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

Please read the chapters 38-39 of Job and the given passages with your group and share any insight and thoughts.

Job 38:1-7, 34-41 (NRSV)

- 38 Then the Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind:
- ² "Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge?
- ³ Gird up your loins like a man,
 - I will question you, and you shall declare to me.
- ⁴ "Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding.
- ⁵ Who determined its measurements—surely you know!
 - Or who stretched the line upon it?
- ⁶On what were its bases sunk,
- or who laid its cornerstone
- ⁷ when the morning stars sang together and all the heavenly beings^[a] shouted for joy?
- 34 "Can you lift up your voice to the clouds, so that a flood of waters may cover you?
- ³⁵ Can you send forth lightnings, so that they may go and say to you, 'Here we are'?
- ³⁶ Who has put wisdom in the inward parts,^[a] or given understanding to the mind?^[b]
- ³⁷ Who has the wisdom to number the clouds? Or who can tilt the waterskins of the heavens,
- 38 when the dust runs into a mass and the clods cling together?

- ³⁹ "Can you hunt the prey for the lion, or satisfy the appetite of the young lions,
- ⁴⁰ when they crouch in their dens, or lie in wait in their covert?
- ⁴¹ Who provides for the raven its prey, when its young ones cry to God, and wander about for lack of food?
- 1. In chapters 38-39, what do you think the questions from God suggest about God's power?
- 2. Why do you think God does not give a direct answer to Job's questions? If God did, do you think Job could grasp it?
- 3. How might this speech give a new vision of God and of relating to God, who loves us completely?
- 4. What do we learn about God from how God answers Job? Do you think God's reply will help Job to trust God more?

As a group, compile a list of questions participants have for which there are no answers or unsatisfying answers. For example, "Why do suffering and pain persist while God seems absent?" Have a volunteer pray over the list of questions. Leave time for silent prayer.

Prayer Requests:

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Almighty God, forgive us when we think we have you all figured out. May your Holy Spirit blow like a whirlwind through us as individuals and as a community of believers to glimpse the enormity of your love. And in the awe of your nature and character, empower us to reflect your love to those around us. Amen.



Growth Group Community Service Project

We ask every group to take on at least one service project a year (the ideal is two) and to have at least one social gathering (potluck) per half a year. Please consider with your group members of what community service you'd like to participate in. There is a project list made by our church that you can join in and outside the church.