

Life Group Homework

For the week of Sept 18, 2016

QUICK REVIEW

1. Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything that caught your attention?

MY STORY

2. What led you to the decision to join a life group?
3. What are you hoping to get from your group?

DIGGING DEEPER

Exodus 16:1-8

¹ "Then the whole community of Israel set out from Elim and journeyed into the wilderness of Sin, between Elim and Mount Sinai. They arrived there on the fifteenth day of the second month, one month after leaving the land of Egypt.

² There, too, the whole community of Israel complained about Moses and Aaron.

³ "If only the LORD had killed us back in Egypt," they moaned. "There we sat around pots filled with meat and ate all the bread we wanted. But now you have brought us into this wilderness to starve us all to death."

⁴ Then the LORD said to Moses, "Look, I'm going to rain down food from heaven for you. Each day the people can go out and pick up as much food as they need for that day. I will test them in this to see whether or not they will follow my instructions. ⁵ On the sixth day they will gather food, and when they prepare it, there will be twice as much as usual."

⁶ So Moses and Aaron said to all the people of Israel, "By evening you will realize it was the LORD who brought you out of the land of Egypt. ⁷ In the morning you will see the glory of the LORD, because he has heard your complaints, which are against him, not against us. What have we done that you should complain about us?" ⁸ Then Moses added, "The LORD will give you meat to eat in the evening and bread to satisfy you in the morning, for he has heard all your complaints against him. What have we done? Yes, your complaints are against the LORD, not against us."

4. In Exodus 16:1-8, forgetting about the hardships they experienced in Egypt and what God had done for them, the Israelites were hungry and they grumbled about their circumstances in the dessert. They would rather have their past than their current freedom. Has there ever been a time in your life when you looked back on the past with longing? If so, what did you miss about it?

5. Taking into account their miraculous escape from Egypt, how do you account for the people's complaining so soon, as they were only 45 days into their journey? Long, forced marches? Harsh psychical conditions? Finicky eaters? Or, something else? Could the Israelites have been missing the safety of what was known?

6. In what ways was God asking the Israelites to trust him?

Exodus 16:14-21

¹⁴ When the dew evaporated, a flaky substance as fine as frost blanketed the ground. ¹⁵ The Israelites were puzzled when they saw it. "What is it?" they asked each other. They had no idea what it was.

And Moses told them, "It is the food the LORD has given you to eat. ¹⁶ These are the LORD's instructions: Each household should gather as much as it needs. Pick up two quarts for each person in your tent."

¹⁷ So the people of Israel did as they were told. Some gathered a lot, some only a little. ¹⁸ But when they measured it out, everyone had just enough. Those who gathered a lot had nothing left over, and those who gathered only a little had enough. Each family had just what it needed.

¹⁹ Then Moses told them, "Do not keep any of it until morning." ²⁰ But some of them didn't listen and kept some of it until morning. But by then it was full of maggots and had a terrible smell. Moses was very angry with them.

²¹ After this the people gathered the food morning by morning, each family according to its need. And as the sun became hot, the flakes they had not picked up melted and disappeared".

7. In Exodus 16:14-21 we see God's daily provision of manna for the people, which included clear instructions on the gathering and storing of the bread. What did some of the people do, instead of what they were instructed by God to do? What happened as a result of their disobedience? Why do you think they disobeyed?

In John 6:48-51, Jesus says:

"Yes, I am the bread of life! Your ancestors ate manna in the wilderness, but they all died. Anyone who eats the bread from heaven, however, will never die. I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Anyone who eats this bread will live forever; and this bread, which I will offer so the world may live, is my flesh."

8. Jesus called Himself the true bread from Heaven. In light of the Exodus passages we just studied, what does His claim mean for you and I?
9. We call a daily time with Jesus "chair time." What are some styles of "chair time" that you have tried, and which one works the best for you?

TAKING IT HOME

10. Looking back at this week's message and study, what are the next steps you need to take to continue on the journey of growth that God has for you?

CHAIR TIME TOOL

- Try one of the tools shared about in your life group.
- Pray through the statements from the "Lord's Prayer," prayer card that was distributed in the planner on Sunday, 9/18/16.
- In your chair time this week, think about these questions and passages.
 - Is there an area in your life that you are resisting God? (Deuteronomy 28:1-14)
 - Are you continuing to grow spiritually and find you place in the body of Christ? (Ephesians 4:16)

Exodus: Journey of Revelation "The Learning Curve"

Pastor Craig Sweeney

September 18, 2016

Text: Exodus 15:22-17:7

Topic: God is _____ - _____.

"Remember how the Lord your God led you through the wilderness for these forty years, humbling you and testing you to prove your character, and to find out whether or not you would obey his commands. ³Yes, he humbled you by letting you go hungry and then feeding you with manna, a food previously unknown to you and your ancestors. He did it to teach you that people do not live by bread alone; rather, we live by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.

¹⁷He did all this so you would never say to yourself, 'I have achieved this wealth with my own strength and energy.'

¹⁸Remember the Lord your God. He is the one who gives you power to be successful..." (Deuteronomy 8:2-18)

God reveals He is ever-present:

- To be present with God requires me to _____.
- His presence _____...
 - Grace.

The BIG question then is HOW does God provide the "power" for us to be "successful" today?

- The Words of God - The _____
- The _____
- _____

What can I do?

- Commit to time in the _____.
- When in the desert, assume God will be _____ with me.

** This week in your Life Groups you're going to have amazing conversations with each other about this whole topic.*