

Life Group Homework

For the week of Oct 9, 2016

QUICK REVIEW

- 1) Upon reviewing your notes from Sunday's teaching, was there anything that caught your attention?

MY STORY

- 2) What areas are you currently serving in? Is there a ministry team that you sense God is prompting you to join?
- 3) What was your takeaway from last week's study?

DIGGING DEEPER

Exodus 19:3–9 (NLT):

³ Then Moses climbed the mountain to appear before God. The LORD called to him from the mountain and said, 'Give these instructions to the family of Jacob; announce it to the descendants of Israel: ⁴ 'You have seen what I did to the Egyptians. You know how I carried you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. ⁵ Now if you will obey me and keep my covenant, you will be my own special treasure from among all the peoples on earth; for all the earth belongs to me. ⁶ And you will be my kingdom of priests, my holy nation.' This is the message you must give to the people of Israel. ⁷ So Moses returned from the mountain and called together the elders of the people and told them everything the LORD had commanded him. ⁸ And all the people responded together, 'We will do everything the LORD has commanded.' So Moses brought the people's answer back to the LORD. ⁹ Then the LORD said to Moses, 'I will come to you in a thick cloud, Moses, so the people themselves can hear me when I speak with you. Then they will always trust you.'

Moses told the LORD what the people had said.

- 4) How do God's people become "[God's] kingdom of priests, [His] holy nation?"
- 5) How does the previous question apply to you?

Consider the next three passages.

1 John 4:19 (ESV):

¹⁹ We love because he first loved us."

Jesus said in John 14:15–17 (NLT):

¹⁵ If you love me, obey my commandments. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, who will never leave you. ¹⁷ He is the Holy Spirit, who leads into all truth. The world cannot receive him, because it isn't looking for him and doesn't recognize him. But you know him, because he lives with you now and later will be in you."

Psalms 139:13–18 (NLT):

¹³ You made all the delicate, inner parts of my body and knit me together in my mother's womb. ¹⁴ Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex! Your workmanship is marvelous—how well I know it. ¹⁵ You watched me as I was being formed in utter seclusion, as I was woven together in the dark of the womb. ¹⁶ You saw me before I was born. Every day of my life was recorded in your book. Every moment was laid out before a single day had passed. ¹⁷ How precious are your thoughts about me, O God. They cannot be numbered! ¹⁸ I can't even count them; they outnumber the grains of sand! And when I wake up, you are still with me!"

- 6) Considering the three previous passages, what should our motivation to obey God be?
- 7) How should knowing God's love for us impact our purpose? Why is understanding the purpose of why we are Christians so important?

Paul's Conversion

Acts 9:1–9 (NLT):

"Meanwhile, Saul was uttering threats with every breath and was eager to kill the Lord's followers. So he went to the high priest. ² He requested letters addressed to the synagogues in Damascus, asking for their cooperation in the arrest of any followers of the Way he found there. He wanted to bring them—both men and women—back to Jerusalem in chains. ³ As he was approaching Damascus on this mission, a light from heaven suddenly shone down around him. ⁴ He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, 'Saul! Saul! Why are you persecuting me?' ⁵ 'Who are you, lord?' Saul asked. And the voice replied, 'I am Jesus, the one you are persecuting!' ⁶ Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do. ⁷ The men with Saul stood speechless, for they heard the sound of someone's voice but saw no one! ⁸ Saul picked himself up off the ground, but when he opened his eyes he was blind. So his companions led him by the hand to Damascus. ⁹ He remained there blind for three days and did not eat or drink."

- 8) What do you think Paul meant when he said, "Who are you, Lord?"
- 9) What did Paul's actions say about the state of his heart?
- 10) What are the four elements of Paul's conversion? Who was he with? Where was he? When was the conversion? Lastly, what did he say and what did he want Jesus to do?

Look up the following scriptures in your Bible:

- Paul sharing his story with a crowd in Jerusalem:
Acts 22:6–12 (NLT):
 - Paul's defense before King Agrippa:
Acts 26:12–20 (NLT):
- 11) In the previous two passages, what are the four elements Paul recounts for his accusers? What is the pattern he shares?
- 12) Why is Paul's story so significant?

TAKING IT HOME

Here at Bayside of Citrus Heights we talk a lot about doing life with Christ at our side. Some of us have been walking with Christ a long time; for others of us, our journeys have just begun. Still, some of us have yet to surrender our lives to Christ. If the last category is you, what is stopping you from doing it today? Regardless of where we are on our journeys with Christ, our stories are powerful testimonies of the goodness of God.

- 13) How did you become a follower of Christ?
Who were you with?
Where were you at?
When was it?
What did you say to Jesus, or what did you want Him to do for you?
- 14) Who will you share your story with this week?

CHAIR TIME TOOLS

Israel is a holy nation to God. Moses had to relay that to them. They had a “slave mentality” due to their 400 years in Egypt as slaves. 1 Peter 2:9 says we are “a chosen people . . . royal priests”, and He challenges us to share the goodness of God with others. Spend some time thinking about your own life—are you a light to those around you? Do others see God’s goodness by how you live? Does God’s light show in how you love others, how you handle your anger, in your acts of compassion, or simply in how you listen to others? Who are the people God is putting on your heart to share His story with?

1 Peter 2:9 (NLT):

“But you are not like that, for you are a chosen people. You are royal priests, a holy nation, God’s very own possession. As a result, you can show others the goodness of God, for he called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.”

Exodus: Journey of Revelation “Holy God”

Pastor Craig Sweeney

October 9, 2016

Text: (Exodus 19:1–25)

Revelation: The holiness of God illuminates.

I. My heart.

A. It’s about winning the moment.

- a) The heart represents all of who I am. My
“*desires, feelings, affections, impulses*” ...

“For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. ⁴ The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. ⁵ We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.”

(2 Corinthians 10:3–5)

II. Draws and inspires worship from His “*treasured possession*.”

“But the time is coming—indeed it’s here now—when true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth. The Father is looking for those who will worship him that way. ²⁴ For God is Spirit, so those who worship him must worship in spirit and in truth.” (John 4:23-24)

“This, then, is how you should pray:

‘Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name, (Matthew 6:9)

III. To the nations.