

GROUP DISCUSSION

Questions for facilitating dynamic discussion

Leaving the Harbor

Week 2: Pursue Him Daily

Psalm 1:1-3

August 13, 2023

(Jeff Griffin, Senior Pastor)

God calls His followers to leave the security of the harbor and follow Him on a high seas voyage into the unknown. For the journey to be successful, there are certain skills we must master. Once we've learned the ropes, we embark together into the exhilarating and significant future God has planned for us. This week, we examine the benefits of drawing close to God and the mark He can leave on our lives.

Kicking It Off: In honor of sailors from a bygone era needing oranges to survive their journey ... which fruit would you choose to eat, if you could only eat one fruit for the rest of your life?

Discussion:

1. Read Matthew 4:4. What's significant about Jesus quoting the Old Testament here? If you had to paraphrase this verse into your own words — in the context of maintaining spiritual health and also battling temptation — what would you say?

“Jesus answered by quoting Deuteronomy: ‘It takes more than bread to stay alive. It takes a steady stream of words from God’s mouth.’” (MSG)

2. Read the excerpt from Psalm 1:1-3 below. Which of the main benefits of pursuing God daily resonates with you the most? Why do you think that is?

“Blessed is the one ... whose delight is in the law of the LORD, and who meditates on his law day and night. That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither — whatever they do prospers.” (NIV)

3. Jeff mentioned how Bible study and prayer is quite personal, and explained how there is great freedom in that. What's your comfort level in this aspect of your spiritual life? What's your favorite way to regularly connect with the maker of the Universe?
4. What's been your experience using tools like Biblegateway.com and online commentaries? Which other tools do you appreciate in helping you understand (and apply!) God's Word?
5. If you were to write down one of your favorite Bible verses to read each night, what would you write? {Consider gathering some notecards, and sharing all these as a group.}
6. What's one thing you feel like God is asking you to do daily that will bring you closer to Him?

Wrapping It Up: As we heard this week, there's a definite connection between Bible reading and our long-term spiritual vitality. Pray for your group members to continue (or at least begin) to pursue God in more meaningful ways, each and every day.