

Easter Songs | Psalm 118

March 16th, 17th 2024

My Story Questions

These questions/activities help the group know one another and transition to deeper discussion. Choose one. OR.... You might start the meeting with one person sharing highlights of their story. Set up a rotation.

- 1) If you were in a job interview and were asked to share a weakness, what would you say?
- 2) Spring Break for schools was last week. Do you have any stories from a spring break adventure?

Study Questions

Try to go in order from observation to interpretation to application. Feel free to choose a few questions you like from each section or add your own.

Observation Questions: What do you observe about the text?

Read Psalm 118

- 1) What words or phrases stand out to you? (Note repeated words and the phrase that brackets the psalm)
- 2) What main themes do you identify? (Possibilities: God's strength, man's weakness, rejection, success)
- 3) Are there any attributes of God that encourage or challenge you?

Interpretation Questions: What does it mean? (Let scripture interpret scripture)

- 4) How does 118:25-27 reflect Jesus' entry into Jerusalem (Matt 21:8-11)? Have you experienced a situation where initial acceptance or success was followed by rejection or failure?
- 5) Psalm 118:22 speaks of the rejected stone becoming the cornerstone. How does this metaphor point to Jesus and his reception in Jerusalem that last week? (Acts 4:11-12)
- 6) What do you find most challenging about trusting God as Jesus did, especially when facing rejection or betrayal? (Psalm 118:8-9; Matthew 26:30-34)
- 7) Can you share an instance where trusting God in a difficult situation led to a deeper understanding of His faithfulness and love?
- 8) How does Jesus's suffering and victory reveal God's steadfast love and mercy to us? (1 Peter 2:7-9)
When have you experienced God's love and mercy in your own times of suffering or weakness?

Application Questions: What do I do?

- 9) How will the fact of Jesus's rejection change your desire for success and acceptance?
- 10) Where are you feeling weak? What could it look like for you to encounter Jesus's saving power in your weakness?
- 11) How can we as a community support one another in embracing our vulnerabilities and finding strength in Jesus?
- 12) What is one step you can take this week to more openly embrace your weaknesses as opportunities to experience Jesus's saving power?

Responding to Jesus

Offer these questions for personal reflection before your group prayer time. Practice listening for God's voice.

- 1) Lord, "How can I cultivate more trust in you and less trust in myself?"
- 2) Lord, "Remind me of a time I saw your goodness and mercy this past week."