

Easter Songs | Psalm 22 March 23/24, 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) Easter is this week. Have you been a part of any Easter traditions that you would like to share?
- 2) What's one of the most meaningful or thought-provoking parts of the Easter Story to you?

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?

- 1) What stands out to you about this text?
- 2) Where do you see a shift from despair to expressions of trust in the text?
- 3) What words and phrases seem to describe Jesus' experience and/or point to the events of his last days?

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

- 4) Why would Jesus quote Psalm 22 when on the cross? What does that tell us about his suffering? (Matthew 27:46, Mark 15:34)
- 5) The latter part of Psalm 22 turns to hope and praise for deliverance. How does this reflect Jesus' resurrection (Matthew 28:5-6)? How can this ultimate hope change the way we view our current sufferings?
- 6) Read Hebrews 4:15, which tells us Jesus is able to empathize with our weaknesses. How does this truth affect your willingness to bring your questions and doubts to Him? To others?
- 7) Read 1 Corinthians 15:20-23. How does it connect to Psalm 22:24-31.

Application Questions: What do I do?

- 8) Psalm 22 describes a range of emotions from despair to trust. Is there a time when you felt a similar journey from questioning God to trusting Him?
- 9) How does knowing Jesus experienced such depth of pain and rejection impact your relationship with Him during your own times of struggle? (Matthew 27:39-43)
- 10) Psalm 22 ends with triumph and praise. How can we live out this triumph with others, especially in difficult seasons?
- 11) What practical steps can we take to remind each other of Jesus's victory and presence in our lives, especially during times of doubt and questioning?
- 12) When have you experienced a moment in your life when admitting weakness or doubt led to a deeper experience of God's presence and peace?

Responding to Jesus

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

- 1) Lord, "What is one doubt or question I have been hiding from you? Help me name it."
- 2) Lord, "How can sharing my struggles and doubts with other followers strengthen my faith and trust in you?"