

Sermon Discussion Guide 10/21-10/27 VGroup Meetings

Sermon Title: Always Loving - Lamentations 3:22-24

Distribute name tags as people enter. Take attendance / collect new guest information including address, phone & email, etc. Allow folks to mingle, fellowship, and settle in with each other.

Creating Comfort Tip: When you have new guests visit the group, make it a point to personally introduce them to the regulars in the group - preferably during the initial chat time prior to the meeting starting. This will relieve some of the awkwardness that often surrounds the initial visit & introductions.

Open the session with prayer.

Discussion Starter/Ice Breaker: (15-20 mins)

Fun Insight: Ask everyone to write down 3 things about themselves. 2 MUST BE factual & 1 must be made up. Go around the room & let each person read their list and then see if the group can identify the false statement.

Discussion Questions: (30-45 mins)

1. Read Lamentations 3:22-24 together. Recap from the sermon: What were the 3 attributes of God's love that were outlined in the sermon? Which one most jumps out at you or speaks to you & why?
2. Read the following verses. Discuss the Love attributes that are identified in each passage.
 - a. Micah 7:18-20
 - b. John 3:16-17
 - c. Romans 5:6-8; 8:37-39
 - d. Eph 2:4-7; 3:14-19; 5:1-2
 - e. 2 Thessalonians 2:16-17
 - f. Titus 3:3-7
 - g. 1 John 3:1; 4:7-11 & 16-21
3. The Hebrew people were back in captivity in Babylon because they were disobedient and didn't follow God's leadership. They fell away, in part, because they allowed things to take the place of God in their lives. Erik mentions the "junk" that life throws at us that can distract us from the leadership of God - things that we may think will fulfill us or satisfy us. Identify a few of these things that can lure us away from God's loving leadership. How do we safeguard ourselves? How do we help those around us to not get trapped by these things?
4. A call to action...
 - a. As Christians, we are to be imitators of God. Thinking about God's love for us, how do you imitate Him in your daily routine? How do you show love to those around you (family and strangers)? Do you only express love (kindness, mercy etc) to those who are friendly or nice to you first?
 - b. Think about a time in your life when someone express this kind of love toward you. How did it change your day / circumstance / attitude?
 - c. Identify & discuss new ways that you can show God's love to those you come in contact with daily. Pray that God will guide you to take action this week & allow you the chance to show His love to someone.

Closing: Open the floor for discussion / questions.

Prayer Requests:

Close in prayer.

