

Instructions

Group leaders, take some time before your gathering to look over these questions. Ask the Holy Spirit to guide you and pick 3-5 questions to discuss, which pertain to your group's unique needs and style.

For the video related questions, look up the video in RightNow Media. You can do this on a phone, tablet, computer, or SmartTV device. You can easily find the video by clicking on the "Revolution Church" channel within the app. If you or a group member needs access to RightNow Media, please email info@revolutionky.org.

Series Synopsis

Is this over yet? Are we there yet? Are we really starting Lent... AGAIN? Some days we may still feel lost in the wilderness of last Lent or virtual everything, going around in circles, or just plain stuck. And the yet the season of Lent invites us into an intentional time of journeying with God, even finding God, in the busyness of life. It is a time of holy preparation that can bring new life and renewal as we seek God's presence in the midst of it all. Join us this Lent as we journey with Christ through his own time of preparation from his wilderness temptation to the cross. We will stop along the familiar "places" of his ministry to find ourselves in the same places of invitation and longing, and discover how Christ accomplishes, not exactly what we expect, but always what we need. What is the way through? How do we take the next step? By placing our trust in God and in God alone.

Message Synopsis

Easter Sunday has come and gone. Jesus is risen. Our sins are forgiven. What more is there? Aren't we there yet? Over a thousand years before Christ, a man named Joshua led his people into the promised land, a place that was supposed to be overflowing with milk and honey. But after taking the land in the battle of Jericho, it seemed their promise looked nothing like what they expected, and they had a lot of work left to do to see their promise come to life. Easter is much the same way. We've entered our promise, but sometimes it looks like Jericho, like a pile of ash and ruin, reeking of death. The truth is, we still have a lot to do. The journey isn't over yet. But God is with us and is leading us to take the land, just like Jericho, one city at a time. Where is God leading you today?

Key Scriptures

Joshua 6, Exodus 23:29-30, Matthew 28:16-20

Questions Related to This Week's Message

1. Where in your life have you settled for less than your promise? Why? Why stopped you from reaching fully for your dreams?
2. How have you witnessed God leading you like the pillar of cloud and fire on a daily basis? What about on a larger (long-term) basis?
3. What is God's call to us from Matthew 28? In your opinion, was this call to only those who were present at the time, or does it still apply today? If it applies today, does it apply to you specifically?
4. What is God calling you to right now? What kingdom work is he leading you to do? What Jericho is he calling you to walk around?
5. Are you working toward any promise that you might not see the fulfillment of? A promise for someone else? For the next generation? How are you motivated to keep pursuing something you might never see the fruit of?

Video and Discussion Questions from RightNow Media

Video: “Why Can’t We Stay Here?” (11 min)

(located in the “Renovation Group Bible Studies” channel)

<https://www.rightnowmedia.org/content/series/904?episode=3>

1. Take a moment to discuss this video freely. What stuck out to you? What bothered you? What questions did this raise for you? Even consider where and why your mind wandered as you watched, as it might reveal something of your heart or something of significance in the message.
2. Greg takes our question “Are we there yet” and rephrases it. “Why can’t we stay here?” As you think about where you are in your journey, and where we are as a church, what is your answer to that question?
3. Think about where you are today and compare it to 5, 10, 20 years ago. Did you ever expect to be where you are today? How have you seen the promises of years ago fulfilled (or not fulfilled) over time? Have there been any moments that stood in the way of your dreams that in the end made way for something better? Explain.
4. If Jesus is in your boat, has he ever asked you to do something you thought was foolish (like casting your nets in the water after a whole night of unsuccessful fishing – or like walking around the walls of Jericho and shouting at them and blowing horns)? Did you do it? What was the result?
5. Where is the kingdom advancing around you today? How is God calling you to get involved, to take the land? If he’s calling you to something big (and God’s calls are always bigger than we are), what is the first step or “city” (like Jericho) that he’s calling you to walk around today? What (if anything) is keeping you from taking that first step? How can your group help?

Family-Related Questions:

1. We face disappointment all the time, and kids are no different. What can you learn from Joshua to help your children when they’re disappointed? You might want to look at other parts of Joshua, particularly chapter 4, to find answers to this question.
2. Do your kids understand “process”? What do they see you working hard toward day after day? How can you encourage them to press on toward their long term goals (careers and educational goals, saving for something they really want, etc.)
3. Are you working to build a promise for your kids that you may never see for yourself? Do your kids know about it? Explain.
4. Where have your kids settled (or where have you encouraged them to settle) instead of reaching for their dreams? How can you encourage them to “press on toward the goal” (Philippians 3:14)?