

Sermon Based Small Group Guide

April 22, 2018 sermon:

Exodus: "How we have relationship with God"

Warm up: (15-20 minutes)

Questions for discussion:

- 1.) Everyone who believes there is a God has a concept of what He is like...sometimes shaped by Scripture, sometimes "not so much". What are some concepts of God and what He is like that you've heard people express? Why is it important that we let the Bible shape our view of God?
- 2.) How does The Lord's table (communion) remind us over and over again of what it took for humanity to have a relationship with God?

Digging deeper: (20-30 minutes)

1. A significant part of the Israelites' worship involved animal sacrifices and offerings of crops. Today, God is looking for a relationship marked by obedience as the evidence that we are in relationship with Him. What do you see in the following passages that show we know and love God?
 - Psalm 40:6-8
 - 1 Samuel 15:22-23
 - Isaiah 1:11-17
2. The book of Hebrews contains an in-depth look at how Jesus relates to the Old Testament sacrificial system of animal sacrifices, the Tabernacle and the high priest. As you read the following passages, jot down what Jesus did that accomplished far more for us than what the Old Testament sacrifices were designed to do for the Israelites.
 - Hebrews 7:23-27
 - Hebrews 9:13-15
 - Hebrews 9:24-28

Application: (5-10 minutes) The Israelites responded with unity and enthusiasm that they would "do everything the Lord required" and just chapters later will fail miserably. What have you discovered in your walk with God that keeps you more "focused" and "faithful" in your relationship with Him? Share your journey and discoveries with each other before you close in prayer together.