

Small Group Questions

RED: Jesus the Divider

11/13/11

Getting Started...

What is the greatest sacrifice that someone you know has made for you? What was the situation? How did you respond when you found out?

What is the greatest sacrifice you have ever made for someone else? Why did you do it? Would you ever do something like that again?

Digging Deeper...

Read Matthew 19:27-30

Peter says that he and the disciples have left everything to follow Jesus. What are some of the things that they have left (be specific)?

Like the disciples, if we are serious about following Jesus we will be asked to leave things that aren't necessarily sinful. The following verses will get you started... can you think of some of your own?

Luke 9:57-62

Luke 14:25-27

Luke 14: 28-33

2 Timothy 3:12

What is one thing (that isn't sin) that Jesus has asked you to give up in order to follow Him? How has your obedience in giving it up impacted your walk with Him?

Ben talked about the idea that you will not get to choose what you lose when following Jesus. Do any of the above seem to be unfair or too much for you to give up or lose? Be honest!

In verse 27; Peter asks what seems to be a very self-centered question. Do you think Peter is being selfish with his question or is he genuinely interested in his reward? Explain your reasoning.

If we are honest with ourselves we have all asked the same question that Peter asks in this verse. We have all come to those points as we follow Jesus when we say, "we have given up a lot here, is it really worth it?". When is the last time you struggled with the same thoughts and emotions Peter expresses in this question? What kept you going?

In Matthew 19:30; Jesus encourages us to rethink our position in this life. In reality it is recalibrating of our hearts and attitudes. How does the position of our heart enhance or inhibit our ability to sacrifice to follow Jesus?

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What position is your heart in right now? In what areas are you putting yourself first in relation to others and God? In what areas are you putting yourself last?

What assurances does Jesus give Peter in response to his question? (Hint: there are at least three.)

The following parables have a lot to say about the eternal reward. Write down any insights that pertain to our reward for following Jesus. (Extra Study: Write down some verses that speak about our reward.)

Matthew 20:1-16

Matthew 22:1-14

Matthew 25:14-30

Matthew 25:15-46

On Sunday we were left with this question: *Have you put Jesus in the place He says He belongs in your life?* This question we didn't have time for and the one you can discuss now is: *What is keeping you from giving Jesus His rightful place?*

How are you going to get past "that thing" or "that reason" and become an obedient follower of Jesus Christ?

What every disciple of Jesus needs to know:

1) _____ to Jesus Christ _____ division.
(Luke 12:52)

2) You will not get to _____ what you _____ ; are you sure you still want to _____? (Luke 12:52-53)

What every person needs to hear:

Four stories one point...

1) You need to plan _____ ahead.

2) You have a _____ you will lose.

3) You are as _____ as everyone else and need to _____.

4) One day you will be out of _____.

A question for all of us:

Have you put _____ where He says He _____ in your life?