



Connect: LIFEgroup discussion guide

a Christian community of fresh hope

“Footsteps of Faith: Who do we worship” Sun 13th June 2021

WELCOME: We move on in our new series on the “Footsteps of Faith,” which was launched by Phil last week with a message on “God desires Holy Living.” This week we are asking questions about who or what we worship? What do you recall from Phil’s initial message, which was based on Exodus 20 and the Ten Commandments?

- ***It was suggested that the commandments related to 2 areas of life – what were they?***
- ***How does Jesus summarise the commandments? (Read Mark 12:28-31)***
- ***Also read Deut 6:4-5 and Lev 19:18. What do these reveal about Jesus’ attitude to the Scriptures?***
- ***In what ways do you think Jesus’ summary of the most important commandments defines what it means to live a holy life?***

DISCUSSING THE MESSAGE:

1. Everyone Worships Something

Read Exodus 32:1-6

- ***How would you summarise the passage?***
- ***In what ways do the principles remain relevant today?***
- ***Have you encountered people who lose sight of God and return to their old lifestyle?***

Humanity was always meant to be in a relationship of Worship – worshipping God. In the absence of God people worship other things

- ***Do you agree or disagree and why?***
- ***What have you seen others worship, or do you worship yourself when God is not a priority?***

Read Exodus 32:7-13

- ***What are your thoughts about God’s response to the people’s behaviour?***
- ***What are your reflections on Moses’ interaction with God?***

The New Living Translation renders verse 14 as “the Lord changed his mind about the terrible disaster he had threatened to bring on his people.” However, there is dispute over the translation of the Hebrew in this verse. The Wycliffe Version translates it as “the Lord was pleased (with Moses’ words), (so) that he did not (do) the evil which he spoke against his people.” The NLT suggests God changed his mind, while the Wycliffe translation indicates that Moses’ intercession and heart to repent for his people led to a changed outcome.

2. Choices and actions have consequences

Read Mark 4:26-29

- ***What does Jesus’ description of the Kingdom of God convey to people then and to us today?***
- ***When have you been intentional about sowing spiritual seed and what was the outcome?***

Read Gal 6:7 - 10

- **What additional principles do we learn from what Paul teaches the church?**
- **How could we “do good to everyone—especially to those in the family of faith?”**

Read Exodus 32:15-24

- **How would you summarise the passage?**
- **Re-read verse 4 – in what ways does Aaron’s retelling of the events differ from his actual actions?**
- **In what ways does claiming to follow God, while acting without integrity, damage God’s people?**

IT IS VITAL THAT FOLLOWERS OF JESUS CHRIST LIVE WITH INTEGRITY AND SEE THINGS AS GOD SEES THEM. WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO YOU TO “WEAR KINGDOM GLASSES?”

Our response:

Take a few moments to consider who in the Connect church family, “in the family of faith” you could “do good” for this week. Commit to pray for them and to send a message to encourage them this coming week/weekend?

Pray together:

Pray that we would each be the kind of Christian who is known as a person of integrity.

Pray that we would each be encouraged to do good those around us in need.

Pray that we, as the family of Connect Church, would make the effort to strengthen each other to represent the Church of Jesus well in our world.

Pray that our leaders would be godly people who intercede on our behalf, while we in turn commit to pray for our leaders and support them.

Pray we would give and receive the kind of forgiveness we all need, to be who God has called us to be

Pray that we would make time this week to listen to God, whether through our 5 x 5 x 5 journey or other devotional process, make time to listen as God speaks to us.

This week why not engage with the 5 x 5 x 5 process – take 5 mins for 5 days and dig deeper in 5 ways.