

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

For the week of April 17-23, 2022

“THE SUFFERING SERVANT”

GETTING STARTED

To the facilitator: Use this section to introduce the topic. If possible, give a brief recap of the sermon.

Share a memorable point, a spiritual lesson, a personal application, a question, or something that challenged you from the sermon last Sunday.

How would you feel if someone else took responsibility and the consequences for a major mistake you made? Would you be willing to let this happen? Why or why not?

GROUP DISCUSSION

Read Isaiah 52:13-53:12.

1. List as many characteristics of the Suffering Servant as you can from this passage. What parts of Jesus' life do these prophecies make you think of?
2. Why would God choose someone as undesirable as the Suffering Servant to bring about the salvation of man (53:2)? How does this description compare to your perception of Jesus?
3. When faced with suffering and rejection in our own lives, why is it a comfort to know that Jesus knows better than anyone what it's like to suffer and be rejected? (See also John 15:18-19.)
4. Do you see yourself included in the phrase in Isaiah 53:6, “All of us like sheep have gone astray?” Share a brief testimony of how Christ has been like a shepherd to you?
5. Isaiah 53:10 says “But Yahweh was pleased to crush Him” (LSB). Why would God treat the Suffering Servant in this way? What did he do to bear God's punishment? What did we do to deserve his grace?
6. Review the different ways where God's mercy and grace are shown throughout this chapter. How should we respond and live our lives in view of what God has done for us?

7. Jesus was terribly humiliated through his death on the cross. Share and pray together about situations of humbling that you (or others you know) have experienced in order to faithfully serve God and others.

8. NEXT STEPS

Quietly and humbly, he went to the cross for the sin of many. His death justified these many wayward people, giving them the right to become the children of God.

- ☐ I will remember Christ's suffering and his sacrifice to save sinners like me.
- ☐ I will look at Jesus as the fulfillment of Isaiah's vision.
- ☐ I will develop habits of knowing Christ deeply and living for his glory.
- ☐ I will share the gospel of Jesus and what he has done on the cross to unbelievers.

Don't forget to:

- ☐ Go through the devotionals everyday this week.
- ☐ Have a regular daily time of prayer and reading of God's Word.
- ☐ Commit 30 minutes a day for God's intervention in this fight against the COVID virus.

CLOSING THE SESSION.

Close the session by taking the time to pray for one another. Consider the following as you pray:

- Prayer of thanks for the finished work of Christ that brought about forgiveness, healing, peace, and salvation.
- Pray for protection, provision, healing and comfort to those who were greatly affected by the recent typhoon.
- Pray for a peaceful election.
- Take the time to pray for our nation, for peace and for the gospel to prosper during this time of the pandemic.
- Pray for those who are hurting, going through fear, worry and anxiety in the group.
- Pray for your unsaved family, friends and loved ones.

BIBLE READING SCHEDULE.

April 18 Colossians 3:20-25

April 19 2 Peter 1:16-21

April 20 1 John 5:1-5

April 21 Luke 1:46-56

April 22 John 16:16-33

April 23 Luke 23:39-43

April 24 Leviticus 16:11-16