



Discussion Questions for the week of May 2nd

BIG IDEA: As we close up the school year and head into summer, we are ready to take a break, and for many of us that usually means spiritually as well. God did not come to earth and die for us so that we could go to church once a week when we're in town and be good people. God radically loves us and calls us to be devoted to Him through Jesus Christ and His Word. Are you willing to live a life as a fully devoted follower of Jesus Christ? This week we will look at what it is to be a devoted follower of Christ.

ICE BREAKER:

If you could be a pro athlete in any sport, which sport would you choose?

DISCUSSION:

1. When you think of the most passionate Christian you know, what comes to mind in how they live their life through words or actions?
2. When you hear the word "devoted", what do you think of?
3. What does it mean to be a devoted follower of Jesus?
4. Read Matthew 22:34-40. What does this verse teach in regard to being devoted to God? What are ways that you show devotion to the Lord with "all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind?"
5. Read Mark 1:16-20. Jesus calls us to drop everything and follow Him. What is the cost of being a devoted follower of Jesus?
Obedience, surrender, losing your identity, leaving who you "know", being transformed, suffering for the name of Jesus.
6. In the Book of Joshua, God brings His people Israel into the Promised Land by the hand of Joshua. Joshua leads the people immediately following the death of Moses. At the end of the book, we see Joshua at the end of His life. This passage is a charge to Israel and it's leadership. Read Joshua 23:1-13. What are things that you see in this passage for why we should be devoted to God?
7. How does Joshua charge and challenge his people to devote themselves to God? Share the verse and what we are called to do.
 - Devote yourself to the Word of God - v.6 "Keep and do all that is written in the Book"
 - Do not be distracted by the culture - v.7 "not mix with these nations remaining among you."
 - Devote yourself to God - v.8 "you shall cling to the Lord your God."
 - Devote yourself to the love of God - v.11 "love the Lord your God."
8. What are things in your life right now that are keeping you from being fully devoted to Jesus Christ? How can you get rid of those things?

APPLICATION:

TIME, PLACE, PLAN

You don't just accidentally become a devoted follower of Christ, you must be diligent to train yourself. This week, create a plan for yourself in your personal devotion to the Lord. Pick a TIME each day and hold to it, decide on a PLACE that you can go to each day and sit with the Lord and His Word, and figure out a PLAN to worship Him and dwell in relationship with Him. Ask your leader or each other if you need help. What are some ideas that come to mind?