

Growth Group Questions

18th Sunday after Pentecost ~ September 22, 2024

Introduction

Our service introduction states that pride is the “essential vice”, leading to other sins. One could understand humility as the “essential virtue” then, leading to godly living. Discuss why these two traits have such an outsized impact on us and others.

Into the Word – Numbers 12:1-15

1. Verse one describes the ethnicity of Moses’ wife as a reason for Miriam and Aaron’s rebellion against Moses. What do their words in verse two reveal as additional motivation for them?
2. Some of us have had to stand in guilt before our fathers knowing we had done wrong. Imagine what it was like for Miriam and Aaron in verse 5 when God himself stood before them and spoke.
3. Now realize that because of Jesus, you will never have to have that terrifying, guilt-ridden moment before God. Stop your study and take a moment to say a prayer of thanksgiving for God’s grace and Jesus’ work of forgiveness.
4. God’s punishment against those who rebel against God’s prophet is a reminder for us in how we address one another, and those in public leadership of the church. How is humility important for both leaders and members in our churches?
5. Cleansed lepers were required to be symptom-free for 7 days before they cleared to re-enter society. It seems God cleansed her right away, but she still had to wait. Why does God allow us to face consequences for sin even though they’re forgiven?

Into the Word – James 3:13-18

6. How does a person show true wisdom?
7. How do envy and selfish ambition lead to disorder and evil practices?
8. What does James mean when he says “peacemakers who sow in peace raise a harvest of righteousness”?
9. What do these verses say about who is best qualified to serve as pastors and leaders in our churches? What do we look for?

Into the Word – Mark 9:30-37

10. Why were the disciples afraid to ask Jesus about his impending death?
11. Jesus knew what they had been arguing about. How are we today like those disciples?
12. What was Jesus’ answer to the disciples’ desire to be first in the kingdom of God?
13. Verses 36-37 show us how we can serve and honor the Lord. How do we serve our Father in heaven?

Closing Prayer

Savior Jesus, in humility you were willing to empty yourself so that we might be filled with your righteousness. Let me respond in humility toward others that they might know your grace too. Amen.