

October 22 2023

Icebreaker If you needed to pawn something for quick cash, what would you pawn and why?

Our Work

Read Genesis 47:13-27

Question: What good comes to the Egyptians in this story? What good comes to Joseph and his boss (Pharaoh)? What good comes to the Israelites?

Question: Does Joseph show dutiful Christian work in these passages? How?

Abraham Kuyper once said "The Christian shoemaker does his duty not by putting little crosses on the shoes, but by making good shoes"

Follow-up: How do you show dutiful Christian work at your job? Are there things you wish you did to show it better?

Genesis 2:15 tells us that God put Adam in the garden "to work it and to keep it"

Tips and Tricks:

The sermon notes are designed to be used as a guide for discussion. Don't feel like you have to use every question. Some questions will take a while to work through and others will be over in a few seconds.

Don't teach the lesson. The sermon was just preached. Just ask the questions and let everyone else talk.

Let other people ask questions. It's OK to go "off topic" for a while. Sometimes those conversations are more interesting anyway!

Have fun. Don't forget to laugh and crack up. Relationships, not curriculum, are the heartbeat of our ministry. Remember: We have to build a relational bridge strong enough to hold the truth!

Agenda for Group Time

Ice Breaker - Lighthearted ice breaker question (10 minutes)

Discussion - Bible study, sharing and application. (25 Minutes)

Prayer - Pray together (5 minutes)

Planning - Remember to talk about what's coming up.

Question: How does the fact that God's original plan involves work change how we view our work?

Follow up: we know that the fallenness of our world affects work. What aspects of the fallen world affect you most in your work?

- Frustration in repeating toilsome tasks
- Difficulty in being a light to coworkers
- Maintaining a clean conscience in how I work
- Other: _____

Redemption

God is able to use Joseph to bring about deliverance for Egypt and Israel alike, what do you find most remarkable about the story?

- The way a former slave could become a good master of Egypt
- The way it sets up Pharaoh's controlling everything in Exodus
- The fact that the Israelites could prosper even in a foreign land
- The fact that Joseph could make the government do something useful
- Other: _____

We're reminded in this story that God works His extraordinary purposes through ordinary ways. What ordinary things have managed to change your life in extraordinary ways?

We know from Joseph's story, and the story of many others, that God uses suffering to make us more like His Son. What can make that difficult to believe?

- Suffering sometimes makes God feel further, not closer
- When suffering is over, I am so quick to forget God

- I feel like sanctification comes in cycles, that progress is slow
- Other: _____

In Christ, God shows us He will go to great lengths to make us like His Son. How does Christ inspire you most to live like Him?

- The mission He had, showing love to me
- The way He spoke to people, showing that nobody is unworthy of attention.
- The suffering He endured, reminding me God is with me in hardship
- The glory He received, and offers as a future hope to me
- Other: _____

Work It Out!

One thing I'll do differently because of this sermon:
