

Genesis to Revelation: The Greatest Story
Life Group Notes Week Beginning 9th June 2019

Icebreaker:

What was one rule that your parents had for you that you thought was crazy when you were a child?

1. If we see God as a cosmic killjoy just waiting for people to do something wrong so He can catch and punish them, how will this impact our relationship with him?

2. The Ten Commandments are the basic “rules of the road” for how people are to relate to God and each other (Exodus 20:1-17;).

How would our lives and faith improve if we followed these commands (in action and in spirit)? What was the purpose of the Ten commandments?

3. John unpacked the reality that God is seeking to come down and connect with His people...with us! He said that three things need to happen for God to draw near to us and experience His presence. Why are each of these so important?

(a) There must be house rules to guide how people relate to God and each other.

(b) God will need a place to stay

(c) Sin must be atoned for. (See Exodus 12 The Passover)

4. The golden calf was an example of people trying to invent their own religion, worshipping idols. How do people still do this today and how are the results just as disastrous?

5. The Lord spoke to Moses “as one speaks to a friend” (Exodus 33 v 11).

What steps can we take to gain a deeper understanding of who God is?

6. How did Israel go from “everything the Lord has said we will do,” to building a false god in scarcely over a month? Why is it so easy to become forgetful of God’s mercies?

7. What is the significance of the Tabernacle?

(Exodus 25 v22, 1Corinthians 6 v 19)

Why do you think there was only one door? (John 10 v9)

8. God showed His love for people and His desire to connect the Upper and Lower Story by moving into their neighbourhood. He settled in, right in their midst. God is still seeking to connect with us on a deeply personal level. What are ways you experience the presence and care of God breaking into your daily life?

9. God promised that His presence would be with the people and they would stand out in the world because of it. This is still true today. What are some ways Christians should stand out in our world? Name one area of your life in which you sense God is calling you to look different to the world because He is with you

10. God no longer dwells in tents or temples: He lives in us

(Acts 7:48-50); 1 Corinthians 6:19).

How does recognising that God dwells in us help connect His Upper Story to our Lower Story on a daily basis?

Prayer Points

Thank God that he uses limited, ordinary and even broken people to accomplish his purposes in the world.

- Ask God to give you a clearer vision of who he is. Pray that it will not be tainted by false understanding and childish images, but shaped and informed by his Word.
- Thank Jesus for being the ultimate, complete and final sacrifice for sin. Celebrate that you are made clean through the blood he shed on the cross.
- Confess where you have wandered from God's plan for your life and ask him to help you recalculate.
- Thank God for his loving discipline and invite him to help you stay on his course for your life.