

SPECIAL SERMON "When The Father's House Gets Fun" Sermon Small Group Questions Speaker: Pastor Joseph Zwanziger

USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

- This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group. For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session together. After considering the needs of your group, you may choose one of the following options:
 - 1. one section of questions
 - 2. one or two questions from each section
- Feel free to adapt the format to meet the needs of your group. If your group is mature and wants to dig deeper, add Scripture and ask suitable questions. Remember that this is only a guide.
- Personal application is key to everyone's growth and should be included in every discussion. When asked how he or she intends to apply a certain principle a group member may say, "I need to spend more time in the Bible and in prayer." It is important for you to help group members make applications that are more specific and commit to a specific plan of action by asking, for example, "How are you going to begin?" An example is to get up 30 minutes earlier each morning, spending 15 minutes reading the Bible and 10 minutes in prayer. Encourage each group member to be accountable to the group for personal progress at the next meeting.
- As the leader your goal is to help bring the group into a stimulating discussion that helps the members recognize their need for personal life change. Ultimately you want them to be willing to commit to change with accountability to the group. Accountability helps us to persevere in our commitments and achieve the blessings of success.

INTRODUCTION

The Father's heart for the lost is frantic. He wants His sons and daughters to be rescued and brought back, and we have the privilege of partnering with Him in this priority. When we go after those lost children, the Father is pleased. When we bring them back to Him, the Father is eternally grateful.

MESSAGE

God is giving time for everyone to experience His love, and making a place for them is our priority.

[2 Peter 3.9 (MSG)]

God isn't late with his promise as some measure lateness. He is restraining himself on account of you, holding back the End because he doesn't want anyone lost. He's giving everyone space and time to change.

[John 14.6]

Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me.

How many people am I okay with letting go to hell because they don't know Jesus?

[John 3.16 (MSG)]

This is how much God loved the world: He gave his Son, his one and only Son. And this is why: so that no one need be destroyed; by believing in him, anyone can have a whole and lasting life.

[Matthew 9.36-38 (NKJV)]

But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd. 37 Then He said to His disciples, "The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few. 38 Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest."

God's heart is for the lost.

He made it natural for us to go after the lost:

God loves us. We love Him

Love Him → We worship Him

Worship Him → We become like Him

When we worship, we gain His heart for the Lost, and they become our priority too!

"The day you're truly satisfied in Jesus is the day you realize that you are a conduit of His love for the world! The most refreshing and satisfying place to be is when you're doing things for others... BECOMING the Church, not SITTING in a church."

- James Murray

CONCLUSION

The Father's House gets fun when we make God's lost sons and daughters a priority. We will experience a level of joy, grace, favor, blessing and who knows what else like never before!

How We Can Make the Lost a Priority:

- 1. Get a heart for your world.
- · Pray and ask Him for His heart.
- 2. Develop a vision for your world.
- · A vision isn't just a picture; it's a plan.
- 3. Exercise authority over your world.
- · Pray over your spheres of influence.
- 4. Actively engage your world.
- God alters the steps of the righteous, not the intentions.

Be conduits of Jesus Christ, and be the invitation! (Give the dates and the details, and look good doing it.)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. Share a time when you, or a child of yours, got lost.
- 2. How can our prayers help us get a true revelation of God's heart for the those far from Him?
- 3. Why does church sometimes get boring? How is this determined by our focus?
- 4. How can you engage your world? (Consider the difference between a picture and a plan.)
- 5. Do you have a vision for your school or work place? What is it, or what should it be?
- 6. What does it look like to "be the invitation"?