



*Easter at Sun Valley
The Prodigal Son
April 15 & 16, 2017
Sun Valley Community Church*

Group Questions

Groups are authentic friendships centered on God's Word. In groups we can take what is discussed on the weekends and really work it into the aspect of every day life. It's okay for the conversation to go where it needs to go, so use the following questions as a starting point to get the conversation going.

Notes from the Weekend Sermon

11 Jesus continued: "There was a man who had two sons." Luke 15:11(NIV)

18 I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. Luke 15:18 (NIV)

29 But he answered his father, 'Look! All these years I've been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders.' Luke 15:29a (NIV)

Jesus did not teach that the good are in and the bad are out.

Jesus taught that the humble are in and the prideful are out.

What stood out to you from the message this weekend?

Was there anything that challenged you or resonated with you?

This weekend we celebrated the greatest day in history when Jesus conquered death on our behalf. What makes the "peak" of Easter even more incredible is the "valley" moment that proceeded it three days before at the cross. While on the cross, Jesus quotes the beginning of the ancient Psalm of David that we know as Psalm 22. The cross and the resurrection were always part of God's plan to rescue us. As a group, read this Psalm that was written over a thousand years before the crucifixion.

Psalm 22

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Why are you so far from saving me, from the words of my groaning?

2 O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer,
and by night, but I find no rest.

3 Yet you are holy,
enthroned on the praises of Israel.

4 In you our fathers trusted;
they trusted, and you delivered them.

5 To you they cried and were rescued;
in you they trusted and were not put to shame.

6 But I am a worm and not a man,
scorned by mankind and despised by the people.

7 All who see me mock me;
they make mouths at me; they wag their heads;

8 "He trusts in the Lord; let him deliver him;
let him rescue him, for he delights in him!"

9 Yet you are he who took me from the womb;
you made me trust you at my mother's breasts.

10 On you was I cast from my birth,
and from my mother's womb you have been my God.

11 Be not far from me,
for trouble is near,
and there is none to help.

12 Many bulls encompass me;
strong bulls of Bashan surround me;

13 they open wide their mouths at me,
like a ravening and roaring lion.

14 I am poured out like water,
and all my bones are out of joint;
my heart is like wax;
it is melted within my breast;

15 my strength is dried up like a potsherd,
and my tongue sticks to my jaws;
you lay me in the dust of death.

16 For dogs encompass me;
a company of evildoers encircles me;
they have pierced my hands and feet—

17 I can count all my bones—
they stare and gloat over me;

18 they divide my garments among them,
and for my clothing they cast lots.

19 But you, O Lord, do not be far off!
O you my help, come quickly to my aid!

20 Deliver my soul from the sword,
my precious life from the power of the dog!

21 Save me from the mouth of the lion!
You have rescued me from the horns of the wild oxen!

22 I will tell of your name to my brothers;
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:

23 You who fear the Lord, praise him!
All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him,
and stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!

24 For he has not despised or abhorred

the affliction of the afflicted,
and he has not hidden his face from him,
but has heard, when he cried to him.
25 From you comes my praise in the great congregation;
my vows I will perform before those who fear him.
26 The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied;
those who seek him shall praise the Lord!
May your hearts live forever!
27 All the ends of the earth shall remember
and turn to the Lord,
and all the families of the nations
shall worship before you.
28 For kingship belongs to the Lord,
and he rules over the nations.
29 All the prosperous of the earth eat and worship;
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust,
even the one who could not keep himself alive.
30 Posterity shall serve him;
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming generation;
31 they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people yet unborn,
that he has done it.

Observe – What does it say? What things stand out to you as you read through this passage?

Understand – What does it mean? What is the truth that can be discerned in this passage?

Apply – What are we supposed to do? It is one thing to know what to do; it is another thing to actually do it. How can we apply what we know this week?

Possible Questions for additional conversation:

Easter is not just a celebration of what has happened but also a celebration of what is to come. What are you most looking forward to in eternity?

Who in your life can you, as a group, pray for to meet, know, and follow Jesus on this side of eternity?

As a group, take time to pray for those that God is putting on your heart and mind.

What's happening at Sun Valley?

*For more information about what's going on at Sun Valley, download the SV App on your mobile device!

1. Baptism Celebration is coming up May 6/7. If you have said "Yes" to Jesus and have not yet been baptized, this is for you. Learn more at baptism.sv.cc.
2. Summer Spectacular is coming up! This event is for k-4th grade and will be a great time of fun, meeting new friends, and learning how to follow Jesus. Learn more and register at summerspectacular.sv.cc
3. SV Student camp registration is open. Learn more at studentcamp.sv.cc