

LIFE GROUP QUESTIONS

Love

Passage: Psalm 136

Introduction: Pastor John noted how this chapter helps us see God's love:

- 1) Displayed in His creation (vs. 4-9)
- 2) Displayed in His deliverance (vs. 10-16)
- 3) Displayed in His promises kept (vs. 17-22)
- 4) Displayed in His tender mercy (vs. 23-25)

Additional passages: Matthew 4:16-17; Rom. 5:8, 8:32, 8:35-39; Galatians 4:4-6; Hebrews 7:18-19, 7:23-8:1

Questions:

1. What are some aspects of God's creation that amaze you?
2. Psalm 136:4-9 all direct our attention to *God's love on display* through creation. Take a few minutes to talk about the impact of the wonder of creation on your experience of God's love.
3. John talked about how God has not consigned us to live in darkness but is the giver of light. What did God use to show you your need for a Savior (cf. Matt 4:16-17)? What are some significant ways He has lighted your way since you became a Christian?
4. John described the Exodus as the greatest event in Israel's history and drew attention to how that deliverance is the touchstone for the greater deliverance Christ accomplishes for God's people from sin and death.
 - a. What made the Exodus such a great deliverance at the time?
 - b. How does the Exodus event foreshadow God's even greater deliverance through Jesus Christ? Said another way, how is God's deliverance through Jesus better and greater than the deliverance of His people from Egypt? (Cf. Romans 5:8, 8:31, 8:35-39; Gal 4:4-6, Heb. 7:18-19, 7:23-8:1).
 - c. How have you personally experienced the delivering love of God through Christ in your life and the lives of others in your local church?
5. John noted how continuing to believe God's promises is an antidote to disillusionment through trials and suffering in life. God does not promise to fulfill all of His promises to us in our lifetime. Instead, He commends those who wait for Him to complete His good work, though the full experience of it might be in eternity (Cf. Psalm 27:13-14, 62:1-2, Is. 40:31). How is it going with having a hopeful, joyful perspective amid the varied circumstances of your life?
6. Casting Crowns has a song *All Because of Mercy*, which says that God sends Jesus to save us "...not because I'm worthy – It's all because of mercy" (Cf. Psalm 136:23 – God remembering us in our low estate). How is God's love particularly on display in the mercy He shows us through Christ?