Life Group Questions

Judgment Belongs to God

Passage: Romans 12:17-21

Introduction: This week John talked about saying no to personal vengeance. While the cry of Inigo Montoya to the six-fingered man in *The Princess Bride*— "you killed my father ... prepare to die" —makes for great cinema, the response of Bishop Myriel to Jean Valjean's thievery in *Les Misérables* offers an alternative approach. Instead of fighting back, God calls believers to leave peaceably with all men and overcome evil with good.

Additional passages: Psalm 9, Prov 15:1, 2 Corinthians 5:18-21, 2 Timothy 2:24-26, James 3:13-18.

Questions:

1. **On the scale of fight or flight, with flight being 0 and fight being 10, how do you respond to personal slight in your natural personality? Is your tendency fight or flight?**

2. **If you tend towards getting your dukes up, how did John's sermon challenge you to be a proactive peacemaker?**

3. **If you tend towards flight followed by bitterness, how did John's sermon challenge you to be a proactive peacemaker?**

4. **Have you forgiven those who have apologized to you for their wrongdoing? Are you willing to forgive those who have sinned against you, but not yet acknowledged it? How could you use prayer in the area of forgiving as you have been forgiven?**

5. **Read 2 Corinthians 5:18-21 and consider Romans 12:17, which says give thought to what is honorable in the sight of all. As a Jesus follower, you always represent Jesus. What are others concluding right now about Jesus followers based on your attitude and actions?**

6. **What is the difference between personal vengeance and just cause (aka righteous anger)?**

7. **Read Psalm 9 and pray for the Lord to help you and one another persevere in suffering like Jesus and trust that He will make all things right one day.**