



Pray Together

Use the first few minutes of your time together to lead your group in a focused prayer time.

- **Praise:** Spend time praising God for who He is.
- **Repent:** Take a few moments to silently confess any sin that is lingering in your heart.
- **Ask:** Verbalize your needs and the needs of others to God.
- **Yield:** Surrender your will to God.

Read Together

Two months after Haggai encouraged the returned Jewish exiles to rebuild the Temple, another prophet was called to proclaim a message from God. Zechariah echoed Haggai's call to rebuild the Temple and proclaimed God's message of repentance and covenant renewal. A completed Temple structure was worthless without spiritually faithful worshippers indwelling it.

Zechariah calls the people to return to the Lord their God: if they return to Him, He will return His presence and His blessing to them. While they are outwardly compliant with the traditions, their hearts are not pure before God (Zechariah 7:5-6). God's rebuke extends beyond the lip service given to religious traditions and challenges how the people live their everyday lives. Zechariah affirms a direct connection from the personal to the public, from their hearts to their actions.

Far from simply an agent of rebuke, Zechariah presents a hope-filled view of the sovereignty of God, with specific focus on His compassion for His covenant people. Divine sovereignty and compassion culminate in the coming Messiah King. Zechariah has more to say about the coming Messiah King than any other Old Testament prophet, expect Isaiah (3:4; 6:12-13; 9:9-11, 14; 10:2; 11:12-13; 12:8-10; 13:7; 14:1-19). The Messiah will return to His Temple (9:8-10), deliver His people (12:1-14), and establish God's Kingdom in Jerusalem (14:9-11).

Outline

1. Part 1 (Zechariah 1-8)
 - a. First Message: Call to National Repentance (Zechariah 1:1-6)
 - b. Second Message: Zechariah's 8 Visions (Zechariah 1:7-6:15)
 - c. Third Message: Problems and Promises—Seek the Lord! (Zechariah 7:1-8:23)
2. Part 2 (Zechariah 9-14)
 - a. The Triumphant Intervention of the Lord: His Shepherd Rejected (Zechariah 9:1-11:17)
 - b. Final Intervention of the Lord: The Suffering Involved (Zechariah 12:1-14:21)

Discuss Together

Use these questions to engage in an informative and impactful discussion.

- As you study Zechariah, identify the most significant questions you need to answer to better understand its message.



- The Triune God is always the main character of Scripture. What does the book of Zechariah teach us about God?
- Knowing what Zechariah teaches us about God, what does the book teach us about humanity?
- Worship is a response to the revelation of who God is. While buildings and religious traditions have their place, Zechariah reminds the people that their personal response to God supersedes all external elements of devotion. Read Zechariah 3:1-10. Discuss pure worship and its connection to Kingdom effectiveness.
- Zechariah 9-14 is the most frequently cited portion of the Old Testament in the Passion narratives of Jesus. In these six chapters, God promises to intervene in His created world through the coming Messiah. Read the following passages and discuss how these prophecies are fulfilled in the suffering and death of Jesus.
 - Zechariah 9:9-10
 - Zechariah 11:12-13
 - Zechariah 12:10
 - Zechariah 13:7-9
- Is God giving you a renewed vision—perhaps a fresh eternal perspective—on a task or calling that you have set aside or failed to accomplish? How does the promise Zechariah 4:6 assure you as you pursue your God-given vision?
- How should the Body of Christ “go there” with the message of Zechariah? How do you personally need to “go there” with this message?

Do Life Together

These questions are designed to be asked in a smaller group of 2-4 people. The smaller setting will provide better opportunity for authentic responses. In your smaller group time, take notes to help others remain accountable to their answers. Grow together!

- How is God calling you to exchange doom for everlasting hope?
- How has Jesus already provided hope in this area?
- Who do you need to share this hope with this week?

Pray Together

Pray through Philippians 3:20-21.

