



## **WEEK 11 - THOUGHTS FROM THE MESSAGE**

ICEBREAKER - What situation in your life caused you to desperately need comfort? Share.

### **There are people in our community and church today...**

- who feel trapped
- who live scared
- who feel very lonely
- who constantly feel unvalued
- who are strangled with shame
- who are in a complete fog
- who have marriages that are under attack
- who are vexed with depression
- who are bound in bitterness and anger
- who don't know who they are anymore
- who are tortured in their minds
- who are successful and empty
- who are addicted to pornography
- who are searching for truth
- who are so so tired
- who have lost someone or something very special to them
- who need Jesus to touch them and to set them free from their bondage and baggage

- Share which of the above phrases you have felt most in the last month.
- One week before Jesus was crucified, he came into Jerusalem on a donkey and was worshipped as a king. Instead of "crucify him," the people were exclaiming, "hosanna," meaning help us or save us. A lot changed in one week, from loving Jesus to hating him.
- How do you see people asking God for "hosanna," and then later hating or turning from God when they don't get the answer or help that they are looking for? How do you feel when you ask for God to save you and He doesn't answer your request the way you want Him to?

## **QUESTIONS FROM WEEKDAY READING (pgs 333 - 351)**

### **WEEKLY QUESTIONS:**

1. *What's something you noticed for the first time?*
2. *What questions did you have?*
3. *Was there anything that bothered you?*
4. *What did you learn about loving God?*
5. *What did you learn about loving others?*



### Asleep on the Boat | (p. 343)

- To be asleep on a boat while in a storm is quite a feat. Jesus was unphased, sleeping on a cushion while the disciples were frantic. Jesus awoke and rebuked the waves, and subsequently all was calm. Jesus response was, “Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?”
- Do you think there is a correlation between fear and faith? How do they relate to each other? Are they in opposition?
- After the miracle, the disciples fear shifted to Jesus - “They were terrified and asked each other, “Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey him?”
- Do you have a healthy fear of Jesus? What would cause someone to fear God, and how do you think that is demonstrated in someone’s life?

### Faith and Doubt | (p. 345)

- Throughout the Gospels, we see Jesus amazed most commonly by the faith of people. In Mark 6, instead of being amazed by faith, He’s amazed by a lack of faith. This lack of faith apparently causes an inability for Jesus to do many miracles there.
- After talking about the difference between faith and fear, now share about the dichotomy between faith and doubt. How does doubt impede faith?
- The people of Jesus’ hometown questioned Jesus’ abilities, wisdom, and power, and then they took offense at him. How do Jesus’ teachings offend and hinder people today? How does faith fight such unbelief and offense?

### The Wrong Messiah | ( Read p. 351, middle section together as a group)

- Why does Peter feel justified taking Jesus to task for what Jesus said about suffering?
- Think of a time this last week when you “did not have in mind the concerns of God” but “merely human concerns.” Describe the difference.
- What does Jesus mean “whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it”?
- This is hard teaching, but sometimes we need to go into the hardest teachings to really change: Are there times you feel like Jesus is ashamed of you? Why? What’s the criteria for this feeling? Is this “ashamed” a feeling or an action/inaction?