

- 8) Consider your recent prayers and prayer requests. If God answered “no” to those requests, would it affect your relationship with Him? Why or why not?

TAKING IT HOME

- 9) As you look back on the sermon, your notes, and this week’s study questions, is there anything you’d like to stop, start or do differently?

PRAYER REQUESTS

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Life Group Homework For the week of January 10, 2021

WELCOME TO LIFE GROUPS!

This week we kick off our Winter Life Group Quarter. Your first meeting is designed to give you time to get acquainted, connect with each other, as well as time to discuss how to make your Life Group meetings great! The study questions have been shortened this week to allow ample time to accomplish all of this.

To prepare for your first meeting, take some time to focus on the questions below and be prepared to share your answers with the group. Have a great meeting as you build friendships and grow closer to the Lord!

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

- 1) What is one of your favorite (or least favorite) things you did over the holidays?

- 2) When you were a child, what job did you hope to have when you grew up?

REVIEW

- 3) Looking back at your notes from this week’s teaching, was there anything that caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

DIGGING DEEPER

- 4) This weekend we read how the Jews had, once again, rejected God as their king. Read the following passage about the first time they rejected God as their king.

1 Samuel 8:4-7, 9 - "[4] Then all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah, [5] and said to him, "Look, you are old, and your sons do not walk in your ways. Now make us a king to judge us like all the nations." [6] But the thing displeased Samuel when they said, "Give us a king to judge us." So Samuel prayed to the LORD. [7] And the LORD said to Samuel, "Heed the voice of the people in all that they say to you; for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected Me, that I should not reign over them. ... [9] "Now therefore, heed their voice. However, you shall solemnly forewarn them, and show them the behavior of the king who will reign over them.""

Then Samuel warned the people that their king would draft their sons into his military, take their daughters as his servants, and take their crops as his taxes. **Why do you think God warned Israel of what their king would do?**

1 Samuel 8:19-20 - "[19] Nevertheless the people refused to obey the voice of Samuel; and they said, "No, but we will have a king over us, [20] "that we also may be like all the nations, and that our king may judge us and go out before us and fight our battles.""

Why do you think they strongly desired to have a king like all the other nations?

Do you sometimes desire to reject God as your King? Why or why not?

- 5) Clearly, it was God's desire to be Israel's king. Yet, He granted them their desire to have a human king. Why do you think God sometimes grants our requests - even when it sacrifices His better way?

- 6) What wisdom does the following verse give for our prayers?

Ecclesiastes 5:2 - "Do not be rash with your mouth, And let not your heart utter anything hastily before God. For God is in heaven, and you on earth; Therefore let your words be few."

- 7) Read the following passage of how Jesus prayed and expressed His desires.

Matthew 26:39 - "He went a little farther and fell on His face, and prayed, saying, "O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will.""

How is Jesus' request different than Israel's?