

SERMON BASED CURRICULUM

**Date & Sermon Series:**

November 14/15, 2015; A1:8 On Mission Every Day

Speaker:

Dick Brodgen

Scripture Focus: John 12:23-28

Note To Leaders:

This weekend we discussed how Jesus is worthy of glory, of living, and of dying. These questions provide a framework to prompt or foster discussion in your small group. Don't feel you have to use all or any of these questions and you don't have to make it to the end! Use the questions that best fit your group and let discussion flow.

Icebreaker Suggestions: Have you been out of the country before (vacation, work, mission trip, etc.)? If so, tell us about your travel experiences. If not, where's the farthest you have traveled in the United States?

Sermon Series Questions:

1. What thoughts are still resonating with you from the sermon?
2. What was most encouraging or challenging about this weekend's message?
3. In what ways did this encourage you to reflect more about your life?

Specific Questions:

1. Read John 12:23-25 aloud:

“The hour has come to the Son of Man to be glorified. I tell you the truth, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. The man who loves his life will lose it, while the man who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life.”

Knowing that Jesus sometimes spoke figuratively, what does it mean to lose or keep one's life? What does Jesus mean when he says there are two different outcomes for those who love or hate their life? What is the importance of Jesus referencing seeds and eternal life in this passage?

2. In his message, Dick Brodgen says, “Jesus is revealed to us when we embrace others.” What does this look like? How have you seen Jesus revealed while you were serving or

helping others or when others were serving or helping you?

3. What does it mean that Jesus reaches to us when we reach to unreached people groups? What is your understanding of what an unreached people group is?

4. Dick Brogden says, "If we think we are living and yet we are only living for ourselves, we are merely dying." What does it look like to live whole-heartedly for Jesus? Who do you know that lives whole-heartedly for Jesus? What characteristics do you see in them? How can you personally live whole-heartedly for Jesus?

5. "God is worthy of glory. God is worthy of our living. God is worthy of our dying." Though we may not experience giving up our lives for the sake of the Gospel, what are some of the ways you can "die to self" in order to live for Jesus?

6. Dick Brogden talks about how often times we fill our lives with things that leave us empty and lonely. We desire more and fill it with more, but that doesn't necessarily mean we are growing closer to Christ. Were you convicted to desire more of the things of God? If so, what did the Holy Spirit convict you of? What are some things that fill your life? Are there things you should add or take away?

7. Dick Brogden said that if we are not waking up with a "raging desire for Jesus" or "rushing to be in his presence," how can we expect our neighbors to do so? What was your gut reaction to this? Are there elements of this you agree or disagree with? How so?

Challenge:

Dick Brogden called for us all to listen to the Holy Spirit and engage in obedience, for one of us may be called to be a Jonah in Nineveh. Read the story of Jonah this week (Jonah 1-4). Take time to be still, ask God what exactly it is that he desires from you, and then, "Go and do."

Spend some time talking with a friend or journaling the next step you need to take. God may be calling you to be sent to those who don't have the opportunity to know the Gospel of God, whether that is across the world or in your own backyard. God calls and God uses. God is worthy of glory. He is worthy of our living. He is worthy of our dying.