

Sermon Discussion Guide

Encounters with Jesus: The Ascension

Acts:1-1-11

May 2 & 3, 2020

This discussion guide is written in three sections. The first is for private/individual reflection. The second is for couples or for small groups who may be meeting via video or phone. The third contains questions for family discussion. As many of you are sheltering in place, we encourage you to continue to read the passage and study it throughout the week. This way you can meditate on new truths each day and discover new things God might teach you in his word.

Section 1: Individual Reflection

1. The key presupposition from the sermon is that we all are on a mission. We all have objectives for our lives - things that we are striving for. What would you say is your mission? How has the mission for your life changed over the years, as you walk more with Jesus?
2. The mission of followers of Christ is to love God and love our neighbor. Who in your personal life is or has been an inspiration for this mission by modeling it well?
3. Where do you see brokenness in your community and your everyday life and relationships? Has it struck you that God has placed you right where you are to advance his mission? What are the implications of this?

4. Where in your mission do you need to believe that God is with you and that you have the power of Jesus? Where in the mission to you need to believe that you are an ambassador of the king, not the king himself?

5. Consider how this sermon affects our head, heart and hands. What does the passage teach us - what knowledge/information do we gain from this passage (head)? What does this passage show us about our sinfulness and how our affections need to be changed by the gospel (heart)? How should this passage change our actions - what do we need to do or think in our everyday life because of these truths (hands)?

Section 2: Couple/Small Group Discussion

1. What portions of the sermon were most significant and helpful to you? Summarize some of your answers from the previous section.

2. Loving God and loving our neighbor requires the gospel to invade our stories and our lives. What parts of the gospel help motivate you to love God and love your neighbor?

3. List three specific ways that you can be on mission this week as a household and as a small group.

Part 3: Family Discussion

1. Share with your kids your reflections from Sections 1 and 2. Ask them to share some of their highlights from the sermon and see if they can summarize it.

2. Share with your kids, in your own words, why being on mission to love God and neighbor is such a rewarding life. Describe a time or two when you pursued your own interests (your own mission) and found it unfulfilling.

3. Discuss how as a family you want God to keep you on mission. What are some things that you can do to love God more with your family life and be in service to your neighbor? Ask your kids where they see brokenness and how they might fix it.