



Sermon Discussion Guide
Still Here in the In-Between: Staying Faithful
Sunday, August 9, 2020
Based on Pastor Alex's Sermon

Introduction

We're concluding a series called *Still Here in the In-Between*. We've been talking about how we can live lives of purpose and meaning even when we feel stuck in those in-between places in our lives. These can be things like being in-between jobs, relationships, big decisions, or like our culture right now in-between quarantine and reopening. In this current lesson, we learn that it's right here in the in-between that our faithful connection to God can thrive the most.

To watch this week's sermon before your group discussion, go to www.journeyoffaith.com/messages

Share Your Story

1. What's one of the biggest personal fears you've been battling with recently?
2. How has that impacted your relationship with God and staying faithful to Him?

Hear God's Story

1. Have one member read out loud 2 Peter 3:1-18. What's the big idea that Peter is trying to get across in this last chapter?
2. Re-read 2 Peter 3:14. Why would living by a peaceful example be important to Peter's teaching in this chapter?
3. Re-read 2 Peter 3:8-9, and 3:15. What can we learn here about why God is allowing this in-between time for humanity's benefit? Next, how can we better adopt God's motivation, and make it ours?

Create a New Story

1. Is there there something about your tone or example that needs to change in your interactions this week that will help people experience God's peace through you?
2. Who in your life needs a little more time to experience God's love through you?

Further Studies: Looking Ahead for Today

“Based on God’s promise, we are eagerly awaiting the new heavens and earth.
It’s there, that God’s perfect righteousness lives forever.”
-2 Peter 3:13, (*Pastor Matt’s translation*)

In 2 Peter 3:1-13, Peter summarized all of human history from the beginning to the end. Then, he wrapped up that thought with verse 13 where we’re given a glimpse of what awaits us. In this in-between time of waiting for our ultimate reality of living with God face-to-face forever, Peter invited us to look forward with hope as we take God at His word.

A few years after Peter wrote his letters, John wrote what we now call the book of Revelation. In it, he recorded what God revealed to him about what we’ve been talking about. Read Revelation 21:1-5 then move onto the questions below.

DISCUSS

1. What one thing are you looking forward to the most about this future reality?
2. How can keeping this in mind help give you strength for today?
3. How can keeping this kind of eternal perspective impact how you view yourself and others?
4. What one thing do you need to change this week to help you become a person of God-centered hope?

For Parents: Repackaging for Youth

1. For those who have young children in the home, what are some ways you could teach this lesson to them that takes into account their age and learning level?

For questions about this curriculum, contact Pastor Matthew Jensen at
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