

Small Group Discussion

Week 24



Chapter 24 – The End of the Story

Remember, teach what you learn and share life, not just information.

Coaching Conversations:

“That’s as far as we’re going to go in our study of the text. Now it’s time to stop and ask our most important question... SO WHAT?!?” As you bring this study to a close, it might be a good idea to spend some time asking your group, “Why did we embark on this study? What are we going to do with all that we’ve learned? SO WHAT?!?” Reflect on everything you’ve covered in this Bible survey and have group members share about how the Lord has worked in their hearts and lives over the past 15 weeks, as a result of this study. For many of your group members, this may be the first time they’ve understood why the Bible was written and what it is all about. Now that being said, if they truly believe what the Bible says, and they see themselves as disciples of Jesus, then this belief should be evidenced by action and spiritual fruit. They need to be thinking and praying through how they are being “fishers of men” (or women). Encourage your group members to read through the “Where do we go from here?” epilogue on pg. 331-333 and follow up with your group members as you continue to exist as a group about how they are striving to be disciples who are making disciples. As Robert Coleman says in The Master plan of Evangelism, “A barren Christian is a contradiction.” If this study served only to be mere information, then it was just a waste of time. We’ve been given a command to tell the world about the incredible news of Jesus Christ (Matthew 28:18-20). It’s time to make disciples!

How HIS-story becomes My Story:

GOD’S STORY - God will redeem all of His creation just as He said He would.

OUR STORY - As Christians, we need not doubt that God’s plan of redemption will come to completion.

MY STORY - My agenda for today should be governed by my understanding and belief that Jesus is coming back.

Starting the Conversation:

Ask your group members to explain the story of the Bible in 5 minutes or less. In doing so, encourage them to not use churchy language, but make it plain, as if they were sharing it with someone else.

Additional Recommended Resources:

“What is the difference between the Rapture and the Second Coming?” – GotQuestions.org article

“What happens at the final judgment?” – GotQuestions.org article

Life Group Questions

1. Have you done much studying or thinking on how and when the world will end? If so, what has been your impression of the end times? If not, why do you think you haven't approached this issue in the past?
2. Read Romans 8:18–25. How does this promise affect your view of the world?
3. Read Revelation 1. Based on this description of Jesus, how will Jesus in His second coming be different from in His first coming?
4. Read Revelation 21–22. As you read this beautiful description of the New Creation, don't get caught up in trying to interpret every detail. Instead, try to picture and feel the beauty and peace of the scene that awaits us. What stands out to you most from reading this account?
5. Based on what you read in Revelation 21–22 and what you read and discussed in the session on creation, how will God's new creation reflect the reality of God's initial creation before the fall? How will it be better?
6. How should the promise of judgment at Jesus's return affect the way we think about and interact with the non-Christians in our lives?
7. Is there anyone in your life whom you need to be more purposeful in reaching out to? If so, spend some time asking the Holy Spirit to give you confidence and wisdom in reaching out to this person with the gospel.
8. How should the end of the story affect the way we live today? Be as specific to your own situation as possible.

Prayer Assignment:

Thank God that Jesus will return to set the world to rights and that His plan of redemption will be completed. Ask God to affect your heart with the reality of what the future holds. Ask Him to guide you and empower you to live as a faithful disciple maker at this moment in history.