

Community Group Discussion Guide

Sunday, March 30, 2025

Scripture: Esther 4:1-3



THIS WEEK'S FOCUS

When we face difficult times, we must respond with authentic demonstrations of brokenness while maintaining deep and genuine trust in God.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION *(Use along with Reading: Ante Faciem Dei)*

1. In Scripture, what is the meaning behind tearing one's clothes and wearing sackcloth and ashes (verse 1; Genesis 37:34; Jonah 3:5-8; Job 1:20; Matthew 26:65)?
2. How do you react to bad news or difficult circumstances, and why?
3. Why do you think Mordecai mourned publicly (verses 1-2)? Why did he go as far as the king's gate with his distress?
4. What role does the community play in our brokenness? Do you share your life, including your struggles, with your community group or other trusted believers?
5. Why did the Jewish people respond to the news with "fasting and weeping and lamenting" (verse 3; Joel 2:12)?
6. Discuss how the gospel should shape us and provide comfort when we face hardship. What response does it evoke in you considering Christ's impending return and judgment?
7. How does this text teach us to demonstrate authentic brokenness accompanied by trust in God? In what ways are you being stretched to grow in your dependence on God (2 Corinthians 2:9)?
8. Who has God laid on your heart to invite to Passion Week services this year?