

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

RE: JESUS

OCTOBER 24 & 25, 2009

NAMES OF JESUS (Pastor Scott Lanigan)

I have been involved in small groups for a lot of years. Some that stayed at the surface and some that moved to the next level of relationship – the digging into each other’s lives. I remember those groups. Unfortunately, many groups don’t get there. Sometimes we fail to take the time to hear each other’s stories because it involves risking. We just aren’t comfortable. I encourage, challenge and hope you will take some time to get to that deeper level with your group. It is worth it. We cannot do life alone.

If you need a little warm up to get the juices going, go around the group and answer the following question (If you are good to go as a group, skip this and move on).

I am pretty sure you would be surprised to know that I.....

(eg. Spent a night in prison or have never traveled outside of Canada or I hate pickles)

Individually, take some time to read through Psalm 23 from a Bible (not from this sheet). The **first time**, read through it as you normally would. The **second time**, read through it with a cadence – a slow pace. Spend time dwelling on each phrase. The **third time**, include the names of Jesus from this sheet, when you read.

The LORD is my shepherd;
(Jehovah-Roi, my Protector)

I shall not want.
(Jehovah-Jireh, my Provider)

He makes me to lie down in green pastures;
(Jehovah-Adonai, my Master)

He leads me beside the still waters.
(Jehovah-Shalom, my Peace)

He restores my soul;
(Jehovah-Rophi, my Healer)

He leads me in the paths of righteousness for His name’s sake.
(Jehovah-Tsidkenu, my Righteousness)

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
(Jehovah-Shammah, my divine Presence)

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Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
(Jehovah-Shammah, my divine Presence)

I will fear no evil; for You are with me;
(Jehovah-Tsebaoth, my Warrior)

Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me;
(Jehovah-El Elyon, my Defender)

Your prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
(Jehovah-Nissi, my Encourager)

You anoint my head with oil;
(Jehovah-Mekaddesh, my Righteousness)

My cup runs over.
(Jehovah-El Shaddai, my Nourisher)

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life;
(Jehovah-El Elohim, my Protector)

And I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.
(Jehovah-El Olam, my Eternity)

- What phrase sticks out to you? Why?
- What name is associated with that phrase? Why is it important to you right now?
- How would focusing on that name in the midst of your day tomorrow change that situation you are in?
- Ask God what he wants to say to you through what you have read today.

After everyone had done this provide an opportunity for people to share about the experience. What did God impressed upon them?

WHAT NOW?

Tomorrow, start your day by focusing on the name of Jesus. Whatever comes in your day today, remind yourself of that phrase. Ask for God to make himself evident in your work day, day at home, or play. Whatever your day holds.

Secondly, look for an opportunity to encourage someone in your sphere of influence. Could be, buying a coffee for someone, sitting with someone different at lunch, a hug, an encouraging email. Whatever it is make a commitment to do it.

PRAY

Use Psalm 23 as a prayer to end of your time together.
Replace "me" with "us."

I will fear no evil; for You are with me;
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