

Lectionary Bible Study

For Sunday, October 20, 2024 (Pentecost 22)

Isaiah 53:4-12

Discussion Starters

1. This is the last of four "Servant Songs" in Isaiah (also 42:1-7; 49:1-6; 50:4-9). If all you knew about Jesus was contained in this reading, how would you describe Him?
2. According to this passage, what was the purpose of the suffering Jesus endured? In what way(s) did He suffer? What benefits do we receive because of that suffering?
3. What is the difference between a "sacrifice" and a "martyr"? Which one was Jesus? What is significant about that?
4. This text is rich with sacrificial language. Identify some of that language and describe what the first readers must have understood as they heard these words.
5. The Apostle Paul uses these verses to talk about the life of the Christian (see Romans 10). How have people today experienced similar suffering? How have you?

Hebrews 5:1-10

Discussion Starters

1. How does this passage describe the humanity of Jesus? How does it describe His divinity? Why was it necessary for Jesus to be both divine and human? How does that impact our salvation?
2. In what way(s) was Jesus like Melchizedek? Who was Melchizedek?
3. How does the role of the high priest compare to Jesus' role? How would you explain the priesthood of Jesus to a nonbeliever?
4. What does the text mean by "eternal salvation" (v. 9)?

Mark 10:35-45

Discussion Starters

1. If you were one of the other 10 disciples, how would you have responded to the request of James and John?
2. Have you ever asked Jesus to do whatever you ask? What is the difference between our normal prayer requests and the request made by James and John?
3. Why did Jesus come? What is a ransom? To whom was the ransom paid?
4. How does one become great in the kingdom of God? What are examples of how Jesus practiced what he preached?
5. Who has been an example to you of a Christ-like servant? What are ways you could serve someone today?

WRAP UP

What key insight did you gain from this Bible study? How might it make a difference in how you live today?