

HOUSE GATHERING GUIDE

Week of
Dec. 12-16th

WELCOME & WORSHIP

Welcome everyone, have someone open in prayer, and begin worship (1-2 songs, no more than 10 minutes)

SPIRIT-LED PRAYER

Open the floor for prayer - ask people to pray as they feel led to pray. You, the leader, can discern when it's time to shift and close this time of prayer out.

TESTIMONIES/PRAYER REQUESTS

Ask for testimonies and prayer requests - please write these down and email them to pastorkylegarrison@gmail.com (they don't have to be super detailed)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 1. Fill Stockings at STIR** - Help provide for needs of the homeless with small gifts like hats, gloves, bus passes, reading glasses, puzzles, devotionals, etc.
- 2. Week of Prayer/Fasting** - This week! Participate as God leads you!
- 3. Christmas Eve Worship Gathering** - We ARE gathering at our normal time, Saturday Dec. 24th @6pm! Make plans to be here!

MESSAGE

THE GOOD LAND

Scriptures:

Hosea 9:1-17

John 20:19-23

John 2:1-11

Exodus 3:7-9



SUMMARY

This past weekend, we received a message called “The Good Land” learning that God has a Good Land for us to dwell in where all we need for life and joy is provided; all found in knowing God.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. According to John 20, we see that Jesus appeared in a room with locked doors. When were the disciples filled with joy and what does this tell us about the presence of God?
2. Why is it important to know that presence is a person and not a thing?
3. As we began reading Hosea 9, we see that the people were rejoicing, but God told them not to. Why did He rebuke their celebration?
4. We see the people bringing their own gods to the threshing floor. What is the threshing floor and what does it mean to bring our own process or idols to the threshing floor of God?
5. What is the disadvantage of bringing our own process to God’s process? How do you distinguish between the two?
6. The people were bringing their own way to God’s way and the result is seen in not being able to be sustained in the harvest of grain or grapes; bread and wine. What do these represent?
7. God told the people that because they rejected him, they would have to live in their own land and not his; they would have to depend on themselves instead of God providing. What is the way to the good land of God?

8. We talked about the idea of wine being an expression of joy. In the first miracle of Jesus, what was more significant, the miracle or something else? What was that something?
9. In order to experience the wine that brings joy, we must pursue presence instead of our own vineyards - what is an example of seeking joy by your own vineyards bvs God's wine offering?
10. The wine in this miracle laid out in John 2 was the best tasting wine of the celebration, usually taking a process of 40 days; this wine was the best wine made from water in a moment. What does this say about God meeting our needs?
11. How does this help us to embrace His process rather than ours?
12. God, speaking through Hosea, keeps asking through the passage, "What will you do when all you obtained by your own hand is gone". Why is it so important to rely on God for joy rather than your way to get joy?
13. God describes His land as a land flowing with milk and honey. Why does God describe his land in such a way? How is the dwelling place of God like milk and honey?
14. God speaks of His people in Hosea 9:10 as fresh grapes in the desert. What does this mean?
15. What is the call to be a peculiar people? Is there an unhealthy way to seek to be peculiar rather than simply become peculiar?
16. God continues to describe His land as a place of birthing and conception. What does this mean for you?
17. Let's close out by talking about Isaiah 59:19, what is the standard God wants to raise up in this house?
18. Why is this standard so important?

CLOSING

Ask anyone for closing thoughts/questions and then ask someone to close in prayer - thank everyone for coming!