

2023-24 Aim Check-in

- Becoming disciples who make disciples, who make disciples.
 - Creating a community of faith that meaningfully engages our community of residence.
1. Since you last met as a H2H group, have you made any movement towards the aims we've set?
 2. How might we as a H2H group help support or encourage you towards these aims?

Discussion Questions Set #1

“Obey the king’s command, I say, because you took an oath before God. Do not be in a hurry to leave the king’s presence. Do not stand up for a bad cause, for he will do whatever he pleases. Since a king’s word is supreme, who can say to him, “What are you doing?” Whoever obeys his command will come to no harm, and the wise heart will know the proper time and procedure.” (Ecclesiastes 8:2-5)

In sermon, it was suggested that the Teacher expresses a distinct view of authority, namely that authority is something to be wielded like a weapon, dispensing retribution wherever deemed fitting. In the simplest of terms, the Teacher seems to indicate two realities: authority is something to be feared and the driving factor behind obedience is fear.

1. How might this be an unhelpful view of authority?
2. How does an understanding of the person of Jesus alter our understanding of both authority and obedience?
3. What does it mean to value and crave God’s authority? How much of a reality is this in your life?
4. What does it mean for the follower of Jesus that obedience is not driven by fear, but instead by profound love?

Discussion Questions Set #2

“There is a proper time and procedure for every matter, though a person may be weighed down by misery.” (Ecclesiastes 8:6)

1. Discuss how the following limitations on human wisdom impact our ability to discern a proper time and procedure for every matter:
 - i. An unwillingness to listen to wise words
 - ii. Our inability to accurately foresee the future caused by i) misery and ii) a divinely imposed limitation
 - iii. The presence of human wickedness and sin
2. Do you find the acknowledgement that there does exist a proper time and procedure for every matter to be of encouragement or of challenge?
3. How might this verse shape your understanding of God’s willingness to extend wisdom to those who follow Jesus? **“Though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!” (Matthew 7:11)**

Discussion Questions Set #3

“If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.” (James 1:5)

“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.” (Matthew 11:28-30)

“Draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water.” (Hebrews 10:22)

In sermon, it was suggested that the limitations the Teacher encountered in human wisdom can be addressed by coming to Jesus for wisdom, for peace and rest and for cleansing from sin.

1. What does coming to Jesus for these things look like practically?
2. Is this sort of coming to Jesus a regular rhythm in your life?
3. What might it look like for you as an H2H group to practice coming to Jesus together?