AND THEN JESUS ASKED...



Groups Discussion Questions

ICE BREAKER

HAVE THREE PEOPLE IN YOUR GROUP SEPARATELY RIGHT DOWN ONE OR THREE SENTENCES THAT DESCRIBE THE MOST RECENT SUPER BOWL. DON'T SHARE UNTIL EACH PERSON HAS WRITTEN THEIRS.

HAVE EACH OF THE THREE READ THEIR SENTENCES OUT LOUD.

DID THEY USE ANY OF THE SAME WORDS?

WHAT WAS THE BIGGEST DIFFERENCE?



Today we are reading another account of Jesus when he leaves the Mount of Transfiguration and enters the valley below. This one is out of the book of Mark. Two weeks ago we read Luke's.

READ MARK 9:14-29

14 When they came to the other disciples, they saw a large crowd around them and the teachers of the law arguing with them. 15 As soon as all the people saw Jesus, they were overwhelmed with wonder and ran to greet him. 16 "What are you arguing with them about?" he asked......**continue reading MARK 9:14-29**

- What similarities did you notice?
- What differences?
- Why do you think this is?
- In reading today's passage in Mark, we see that there is a lot of commotion when Jesus and His disciples get to the people. Picture this scene. How does Jesus respond?
- The people are arguing. What do you think the emotions of the disciples were?
- What about the boy's father, the crowd, and the pharisees?
- Do you think everyone in there cared about the boy?
- Or were their emotions charged with different reasons?

Today we are reading another account of Jesus when he leaves the Mount of Transfiguration and enters the valley below. This one is out of the book of Mark. Two weeks ago we read Luke's.

- Next Jesus asks, How long has he been like this?
- Why do you think Jesus asked that?
- Do you think evil can take a bigger hold or have a stronger "root" when it has been present for a longer time? Why or why not?
- When does a sinful choice become a habit, or even an addiction?
- How does addiction feel like being in bondage?
- What responsibilities do you have in regards to what your kids listen to and watch?

Eric said, Being vigilant may not be easy, but it is vital. Have you found any helpful ways to guard them?

- How do you guard your own heart and mind?
- The father of the boy used a very interesting word when he asked Jesus for help. What did he say?
- How does Jesus respond to this question?
- How did the man respond?
- Acknowledgement that we can't do it, is the beginning of faith. Have you ever had a time when your faith felt that small you even had to ask God to help you believe? Tell us about it.
- Are there any areas in your life where you are desperate for God to step in?
- Can we pray with you?

PRAYER REQUESTS:

DIGGING DEEPER

READ MARK 6:7-13

Then Jesus went around teaching from village to village. 7 Calling the Twelve to him, he began to send them out two by two and gave them authority over impure spirits. 8 These were his instructions: "Take nothing for the journey except a staff—no bread, no bag, no money in your belts. 9 Wear sandals but not an extra shirt......**continue reading MARK 6:7-13**

- According to this passage what authority was given to the disciples?
- According to verse 13, what power did they exercise?
- Why couldn't they rebuke the demon in Mark 9? (Verses 28-29) How was the boy's father's plea to Jesus different from the disciples?
- After Jesus sent out the 12 disciples, He then sent out 72 to do ministry. Read what happened when they returned:

READ LUKE 10:17-20

17 The seventy-two returned with joy and said, "Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name." 18 He replied, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. 19 I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you. 20 However, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."

- Why do you think Jesus cautioned them with verse 20?
- Have you ever found yourself trying to do ministry in your own power rather than relying only on Jesus?
- How can we avoid doing that?