



DISCUSSION GUIDE

WEEK 2

Atonement

ICEBREAKER:

What is the most expensive thing you've ever had to pay for, and was it worth it?

BIG IDEA:

Today's big idea: Jesus' atoning sacrifice requires us to acknowledge our need for a Savior and respond in gratitude and service!

DAILY BIBLE READING (Optional):

If you'd like our daily bible reading, sign up through our connect card at findcommunity.com/nextsteps.

> Exodus 12:21-30; Isaiah 53:1-5; Luke 2:25-35; Romans 6:23; 1 Peter 1:18-21

> Was there a particular passage that stood out to you?

SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 53:1-5; Philippians 2:6-11

DISCUSSION:

1. From Becca's message, what stood out to you the most? What was challenging or hard to understand? Was there anything in her message that got your attention?
2. Have someone from your group read Isaiah 53:1-5. In verse 2, Jesus was described as a little plant in dry ground. What does a little shoot look like compared to a majestic tree? What incidents in Jesus' life foster this description?
3. How is Isaiah 53:4-5 really clear about Christ's atonement? How is this a central theme of Jesus' mission?
4. Philippians 2:6-11 can be such a powerful description of who Jesus is and the nature in which he approached his ministry. What is unique about his death on the cross that it was singled out in this passage?

LIFE APPLICATION:

1. How would you explain the idea of "atonement" in simple terms to a colleague at work or even a friend?
2. What specific aspect of your faith changes because of Isaiah 53 and Philippians 2? Is it trying to match your character to more closely resemble Jesus? Is it the expectancy of Jesus showing up this holiday season?
3. How could meditating more on Isaiah 53:1-5 help strengthen your faith in Christ? How could it help enrich your worship life?

Take Time:

We can benefit a lot from reading a particular passage over multiple days. This week read Isaiah 53:1-5 aloud every day. While you are reading, stop at each verse and ask the question, "How was this fulfilled by Jesus' death and resurrection?" If you have time journal or note what comes to mind as you slow down and spend a few moments thinking about each specific verse.



Daily
Devotion



Prayer



Freedom from
Strongholds



Serve the
Community



Sacrificial
Generosity



Share Your
Story



Celebration