

Tour 8

The Engagement Project: Small Group Leader Resource

First ask, "What did you see?" Then ask, "What struck you?"

- We talked about the Scripture being the consummate book of the understatement
- We asked the guestion: "Why have we ignored the Royal Law?"
- We pondered if that were because of ignorance, or lies and counterfeits, or selfishness
- And then we pondered that it could be that we think little of Christ's love for us
- We then looked at the event of Jesus in the home of Simon and the woman weeping at the feet of Jesus and Jesus saying "He who is forgiven little loves little"
- We then went to the garden of Gethsemane, the word means oil press
- Jesus said He was sorrowful, troubled, deeply grieved to the point of death
- We then pondered what it was that caused Him to grieve: was it the humiliation, the crown of thorns, the scourging, the Roman spikes, the crucifixion?
- We looked at the cry of Jesus: My God, My God, why have you forsaken me?
- We pondered what that really meant in terms of the Trinity and that, in the eternal nature of God that this is an eternal cry
- We pondered how the sacrifice of Jesus carries an eternal ramification
- We pondered that Jesus still bears the scars, that the Scripture refers to Him as being slain from the foundation of the world
- We pondered this in the context of God's omniscience and omnipresence
- We looked at the illustration of C. S. Lewis: the omnipresence of God engulfing the entirety of history and time
- We contemplated the depth of the penalty that Jesus paid for us and therefore the depth of His love for us
- There was something eternal about what Christ did and yet He said: "Not my will, but your will be done"
- We heard the story of James and his question about this cry of Jesus
- We heard the story of the father who searched for days for his son in the rubble of the earthquake in Armenia and finally finding his son who said "I knew you would come for me"
- We talked about the early Christian symbol of the shepherd with a lamb on His shoulders
- We looked at Deuteronomy 31 and that God will never leave us nor forsake us; yet Jesus was willing to be forsaken for your sake
- We read of Christ being disfigured beyond human likeness and Isaiah 53 speaking of Christ taking up our pain, our suffering, out iniquities
- If we think we have been forgiven little, then we will love little
- We remembered the verse from "The Love of God" and then heard the song, "How Deep the Father's Love for Us"