

Discovery Community Church – Small Group Discussion Guide

Jesus Series – 3/24/24

Luke 13:31-35

INTRODUCTION

- Are there things that worry or scare you about living out your faith publicly? What are they, and why do they scare you?

DISCUSSION

Have a volunteer read Luke 13:31-35

- Why did the Pharisees tell Jesus he needed to leave? Why did Jesus have no concern for the threat of death at the hands of Herod? What instead is he concerned with in verse 32?
- What do you think he means by saying he must “press on today and tomorrow and the next day”? Why does it seem he has this sense of urgency as he describes what he must do?
- Jesus refers to the killing of prophets in verses 33 and 34. Why is he bringing this up? What purpose did the prophets have? Why, do you think, they were sometimes killed by those to whom they spoke? What resulted from their deaths?
- What is significant about the image Jesus creates of himself as a hen gathering her chicks under her wings? Just before this image, in verse 34, Jesus alludes to his death at the hands of the people to whom he is ministering. Why do you think the knowledge of his death prompts such a loving reaction from Jesus, rather than anger?
- What do you think Jesus was trying to convey with the image of gathering the chicks? What did he mean in verse 34, that they were not willing, and in verse 35 that their house is left “desolate”?

Have a volunteer read Isaiah 53:4-6

- Who is this prophesy from Isaiah describing? We often are faced with the reality of senseless acts of violence that happen every day in our world. This passage describes the killing of Jesus, a violent and evil act, as having a clear purpose. What is the purpose of Jesus’ death? What does this tell us about the cost of our sins?
- How often do you consider the violent act that was required for your redemption? Do you ever find it hard to believe it was actually necessary? Why/why not?
- Romans 3:25 says, “God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement, through the shedding of his blood – to be received by faith.” What does atonement mean? In what ways do we try to atone for the wrong that we do? Are we ever successful?
- What does the death of Christ on the cross mean for us? According to Romans 3:25, what is required of us to benefit from Jesus’ sacrificial act of love and mercy?

APPLICATION

- Who do you know that needs this message of atonement and redemption? Is there some invitation you can extend to them this week (Easter service, small group, coffee, etc.)?
- In what way could you reflect this week on the sacrifice of atonement that Christ made for you? What is the Holy Spirit prompting you about from this discussion?