

LEADER REMINDERS

- **Mandatory all leader meeting NEXT WEEK @ 6pm for all leaders who are attending Recharge.** This is an important meeting covering a lot of Recharge info. Thanks for clearing your calendars and making this a priority. Pizza will be available from 5:30-5:55pm.
- “How to share the gospel” 5-minute tutorial video is now available on the RUSH website, under the “Leader” tab.



1.11.23 & 1.18.23 LARGE GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

An Essential Evaluation: parable of the soils (Luke 8:4-15)

Summary:

Tonight, we are covering Luke 8: 4-15, and the parable of the soils. The only way to know the true condition of the soil (your heart) is to do an essential evaluation. And it matters because this evaluation has eternal repercussions.

Main points:

1. The seed is THE GOSPEL
2. The sower is anyone who PROCLAIMS the Gospel
3. The soil/ground is the HEART of the person (Luke 8:12)
 - a. Hard Soil: A HARD, UNRESPONSIVE heart (Luke 8:13)
 - i. People who hear the gospel but keep rejecting it.
 - b. Rocky Soil: A SHALLOW, IMPULSIVE heart (Luke 8:14)
 - i. People who actually believe it and receive it.....initially.....then it fades away.
 - c. Thorny Soil: A DIVIDED, WORLDLY heart (Matthew 6:24)
 - i. People who trade what Jesus wants them to pursue and instead chase the things they want to chase and pursue their own plan for their life.
 - d. Good Soil: A SURRENDERED, TRANSFORMING heart (Luke 8:15)
 - i. Someone who God is moving in and someone who continues to pursue Him.
 - ii. This is a person who allows the Holy Spirit to convict them and as a result, be changed to become more like Jesus.

Questions:

1. Which soil do you think represents your heart today? Explain why you think that.
 - a. If you choose hard and unresponsive...
 - i. What stands in the way of you fully accepting the Gospel message?
 - b. If you choose shallow & impulsive...
 - i. What happened to cause you to initially believe & receive the Gospel message, and then to let it fade away and no longer be important in your life?
 1. On a scale of 1-10, how much do you care that your walk with God is no longer a priority in your life? Explain why you choose that number.
 2. If you want God to be a bigger priority in your life, what do you think is a good first next step for you to take to move in that direction?

- c. If you choose divided & worldly...
 - i. What worldly pursuits (sports, dance, school grades, gaming, laziness, etc) are you chasing that is moving your pursuit of God further down your priority list?
 - 1. On a scale of 1-10, how much do you care that your walk with God is being pushed down your priority list due to other worldly pursuits? Explain why you choose that number.
 - 2. If you want God to be a more important priority in your life, what do you think is a good first next step for you to take to move in that direction?
 - d. If you choose a surrendered and transformed heart...
 - i. What makes you believe that you have a surrendered and transformed heart? Share some examples.
 - 1. When do you believe you made the decision to accept & receive the Gospel message that brought you to the spot where you now believe that you have a surrendered & transformed heart?
 - 2. What would be a good next step for you to take to continue allowing God to grow you & transform you to be more like Jesus?
- 2. Which of the "soils" described in Luke do you think has the promise of being saved from your sins & receiving everlasting life? Why?
 - 3. Was there anything about tonight's message that was a big "aha" moment for you?
 - 4. Was there anything about tonight's message that was confusing or that didn't seem to make sense?