

Growth Group Questions December 15, 2024 "God Makes Himself at Home"

Scripture:

John 1:6-14

⁶ There was a man sent from God whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. ⁸ He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light. ⁹ The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. ¹⁰ He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. ¹¹ He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. ¹² Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— ¹³ children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God. ¹⁴ The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Genesis 28:10-15

¹⁰ Jacob left Beersheba and set out for Harran. ¹¹ When he reached a certain place, he stopped for the night because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones there, he put it under his head and lay down to sleep. ¹² He had a dream in which he saw a stairway resting on the earth, with its top reaching to heaven, and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. ¹³ There above it^[a] stood the LORD, and he said: "I am the LORD, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac. I will give you and your descendants the land on which you are lying. ¹⁴ Your descendants will be like the dust of the earth, and you will spread out to the west and to the east, to the north and to the south. All peoples on earth will be blessed through you and your offspring. ^[b] ¹⁵ I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go, and I will bring you back to this land. I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you."

Hebrews 2:16-18

¹⁶ For surely it is not angels he helps, but Abraham's descendants. ¹⁷ For this reason he had to be made like them, ^[a] fully human in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people. ¹⁸ Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

John 20:29-31

Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." ³⁰ Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. ³¹ But these are written that you may believe [a] that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

Ouestions:

- 1. What does it mean when you tell someone to "make themselves at home"?
- 2. What does it mean to you that God makes Himself at home in us?
- 3. In John 1:14 we learn that God wants to "dwell within us." Where else in the Bible do we find similar promises of God's willingness to live within us?
- 4. What does it say to you about God that he wants to "dwell within us"?
- 5. When John wrote "the Word became flesh" (John 1:14), he is telling us that Jesus was fully human. Why is this important?
- 6. Pastor Paul used the image of rowing a boat to illustrate the concept of how we are backing into our future. Can you relate to this image? If so, explain how.
- 7. Pastor Paul said that walking in faith and trusting in Jesus requires courage. What do you see as the relationship between courage and faith?
- 8. What can we actively do to make our lives a more welcoming place for God to make himself at home?

Pastor Paul's Sermon Questions:

- 1. What is the significance "for you" that Jesus has made his home in our midst?
- 2. How are you making time to meet with Jesus?