

Growth Group Homework and Discussion Questions

For the Week of June 6-12, 2010
"Responding to Loss"

Homework:

Before your Growth Group meets, take about 20 minutes on your own to complete the following...

Read Psalm 63. This is a psalm that David wrote while on the run from Saul. Write down as many things as you can that indicate what we should value and what we should do when we experience loss.

Growth Group Discussion Questions:

The following questions are to be discussed when your Growth Group meets this week.

My Story: Who was your hero when you were growing up? How did you try to imitate him or her?

Digging Deeper: Read 1 Samuel 18.

1. It is clear that Saul was jealous of David (v.9). What were some of the effects of his jealousy - on himself, on David, on others around him - that you see in this chapter?
2. Is jealousy ever a proper response toward others? How could it ever sow good rather than evil? See 2 Corinthians 11:2)
3. When the Bible speaks of God being jealous "for" us (Joel 2:18; Zechariah 1:14, 8:2) how is that different from being jealous "of" someone?
4. How is Jonathan's response toward David different than Saul's?
5. It says in verse 3 that Jonathan made a covenant with David. What does that say about his love for David? What did Jonathan have to sacrifice in order to make and keep that covenant?

Living It:

1. Have you had a spiritual friendship that has helped you during times of difficulty and loss? Describe the value of that friendship.
2. Saul's losses led to self-destruction and David's led to spiritual growth. How have you responded to your losses in life? What have you learned that is helpful? What have you learned that is harmful?
3. Share an insight from Sunday's message or your homework that you will put into practice in order to grow through the losses of life.