

Rising Waters Steady Faith Discussion Questions Week Six

- 1) In Pastor Aaron's message, he shares Luke 19:41-42: And when he drew near and saw the city, he wept over it, saying, "Would that you, even you, had known on this day the things that make for peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes." Jesus weeps over the city because the crowd is yelling "Hosanna," yet in 3 days, the crowd will cry "Crucify Him." Jesus knew their hearts, and the people truly wanted a Messiah who would fulfill their agenda, not the will of God. Can you surrender your plans, desires, and agenda to Jesus? Contemplate if you let Him be the Lord of your life or want Him to bless your will over His.
- 2) The religious leaders of Jesus's day wanted Jesus to be a king, a Messiah who wouldn't make them uncomfortable and wouldn't ask them to change. Are you looking for Jesus to make you comfortable and never ask you to change? Jesus loves us exactly as we are, but He also loves us too much to let us stay there. In John 10:10, Jesus says, "I came that they may have life and have it abundantly." The abundant life is not a life of comfort but of seeing God at work in and through us. How is God speaking to you through the message and the From the Inside Out Journal? Is there something God would like to change in you, your family, and your life, but you resist? Remember, God works for good in and through us, especially when it is hard.
- 3) This week, on page 66 of the From the Inside Out Journal, spiritual disciplines such as a set time of day for reading the Bible can provide structure to help us move from good intentions to actually engaging our hearts and minds in seeking God. What spiritual discipline will you incorporate into your life due to the sermon series and study to grow your faith in God? Who will you tell to help you along the journey so you don't give up or set it aside? *Remember, as we learn on page 69 in the journal, spiritual disciplines are not rules to follow but pathways to becoming a person who follows Jesus.*
- 4) On page 70 in the From the Inside Out Journal, we are reminded to let God's love shape our love. Who is one person Jesus is leading you to love? If no one comes to mind, pray and ask God how He wants to work in love through you.
- 5) At the end of Pastor Aaron's message, he shares some important points for us to remember in our faith. First, sometimes God wants us to be still and know that He is God (Psalm 46:10), and sometimes He leads us to be generous and serve so others experience His love. Second, we can draw near to God through praise. Third, Jesus meets us in His Word. Fourth, Jesus longs for people to know Him, so we invite others to church, Bible study, small groups, and other places where they will meet Jesus. Where are you experiencing God in these four ways?
- 6) Pastor Aaron also reminds us at the end of his message that Jesus knew one of His best friends would betray Him, the rest of the disciples would desert Him, He would be tried, mocked, beaten, and nailed to a cross, and yet He went to

Jerusalem because of His love for each of us. Remind yourself of God's great love and thank Him in prayer. Commit to Him an area of struggle, a resistance to growth, frustration, a difficult person, and seek His heart, love, direction, and will.