

Small Group Meeting on Joshua 7:1-25

Review (20 mins)

Reflect together on your experiences over the last week. What has God been teaching you? Where have you been growing in your walk with Him? Had you set yourself a challenge in your discipleship? How is that going? Share those experiences with your small group.

Read (10 mins)

Recap on the sermon from last Sunday. Try to give a summary to those who were not able to be present.

Joshua 7:1-25

Read the Bible passage for this week, slowly and prayerfully. It might help to use your imagination to picture the scene. Below, you will find helpful background information in our 'Setting the Scene' section.

As you read, look out for *shockers* and *blockers*.

Shockers – a phrase, word, image or something from the text that resonates, stands out or connects with you.

Blockers – something from the text that raises questions for you.

Setting the scene:

- When Israel had defeated an army there were certain areas where God told his people to destroy everything.
- The people were to take certain items and give them to the Lord. They weren't to touch them.
- Achan saw some of these things in Jericho, he took them, and hid them for himself.

- Scripture says that the anger of the Lord burned against the people of Israel because of this.
- God punished everyone because of Achan.
- The Israelites are about to go to war and no one knows about Achan's sin.

Reflect (20 mins)

After you have all had time to read the text, pause and be still to listen to God through the Scriptures.

Begin your reflection time by each naming your *shockers* and *blockers*. Listen carefully to each other, share your thoughts and reflect on this passage together.

You might also like to explore these questions:

Q1. What does this passage tell you about the seriousness of sin?

Q2. Why were all the people affected by the sin of one man?

Q3. How can we apply this passage to the church today? (You might also want to reflect on 1 Corinthians 5:1-5 to ponder the seriousness of sin in the New Testament.)

Respond (20 mins)

As you draw near to the end of your session, consider how you might respond to your reading and reflection by “walking the talk”. What are you going to be doing this week that will help you seal the faith you have? It may be a challenge or activity that you are currently engaged with over many weeks. Be prepared to share how you are growing in that.

Some new challenge ideas

1 Repentance

Are there areas in your life that you need to repent? Spend some time this week praying about this. Speak to a close friend to pray with.

2 Living as a Church family

How can we as a church be more loving as a family? Maybe think of someone to invite for a meal.

3 Accountability

Who in your life are you currently accountable to? Challenge yourself to begin, or strengthen, this relationship.

Group Prayer

As a group, pray for one another this week as you explore a deeper life with God through prayer. Pray that your times of prayer and your attempt to walk in the light of God's ways will increase and become more habitual throughout each day.