



Small Group Discussion Guide

September 2, 2018

Sermon Title:

"Standing in the Gap"

Sermon Text: Ezekiel 22:23-31

Scripture Reading: Psalm 103:1-12

Leader: *Please allow a moment for introductions/visiting. Have someone offer a brief prayer inviting God to speak and lead using the group's discussion.*

Getting Started: Have you ever had to defend someone against a false accusation? Have you ever had anyone defend you for the same? When do you feel you have "stood in the gap" for a worthy matter?

Discussion

1. Consider what was happening in the nation of Judah. (The Southern Kingdom) Review verses 25-29 and take note of what each of these groups of people were doing:
Vs. 25- Princes Vs. 26- Priests
Vs. 28- Officials Vs. 28- Prophets
Vs. 29- People of the land
2. What was God's effort to save the land? Who was He looking for? **(Vs. 30)** What was the result of God's efforts?
3. As a result of God finding no one, total destruction came upon the land. Do you know anything of the history of the destruction of Jerusalem? What happened to the wall? What happened to the Temple Solomon built for God? **(Reference: 2 Kings 25:1-12)**
4. "Gaps", as God called them, are present everywhere in our society. Consider where these may be found in the following categories. Discuss any fallout you have personally seen from each of them: 1) Marriages 2) Friendships 3) Families 4) Work relationships
5. The Pastor mentioned these truths relating to the gap mentioned in the text today: Discuss your understanding of each and the application to your group:
 1. **Sin creates gaps.** What gap do you see mentioned in **Luke 16:19-31? (Vs.26)**
 2. **God desperately wants to fill them. (Reference: Hebrews 4:14)**
The Latin word for priest is "Pontifex" coming from "pons" (bridge) and fec (to build). How does that relate to Jesus being our High Priest?
 3. **At times, it only takes one person.** Consider Biblical examples: Abraham, Moses, Joseph, David, Esther, Paul. How might each of these have made a difference?
 4. **Will you be the one?**

Closing: Close by sharing prayer requests. Pray for each another and for the needs that were shared. **Have a blessed week. GO SHARE JESUS!**