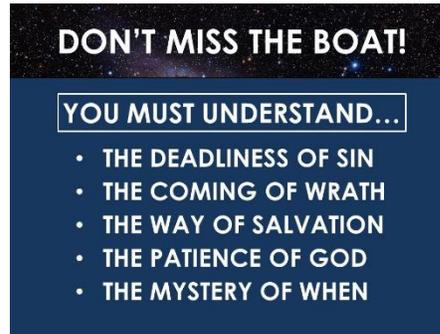


Genesis 6-7 – Don't Miss the Boat! October 27, 2019 Discussion Notes

Everyone is encouraged to bring a Bible

(Phone apps are good for reading together in the same translation. Study Bibles give help with interpretation.)



Questions:

1. Have you ever gotten into trouble for breaking a rule (at school, work, driving, etc.)? What were the consequences?
2. What do you remember about each of the main points of the sermon? (seen above). What in the sermon challenged you? Do you have any questions to bring up?
3. Does it seem unjust of God to judge people for their sin? Why or why not?
4. Here is a thought experiment. If you lie to your child, what punishment can he/she give you? What about if you lie to your spouse? And what punishment might you receive if you lie to the government? What is the difference between each of these situations? What does this imply about the just punishment we deserve if we lie to (or sin in some other way against) God?
5. Read Matthew 25:1-13.
 - a) Why are five of the virgins described as foolish? Who do you think they represent today?
 - b) Who became drowsy? What does this represent?
 - c) Are there ways in which you are overdependent on the spiritual lives of others?
 - d) On what basis were the five foolish virgins denied entry to the wedding banquet? (see v. 12). Are you confident that you will be welcomed in? Why or why not? If you are not confident, what can be done? (if you're unsure, talk to your small group leader or a pastor).
 - e) With what warning did Jesus conclude the parable? Why?
 - f) What can you personally do to be more prepared for Christ's return?
6. Read Matthew 25:31-46.
 - a) What do you think the meaning of this parable is?
 - b) What is the difference between the sheep and the goats?
 - c) How would your behavior change if you thought a stranger might be Jesus?
 - d) Does this passage imply that your salvation is based on your good works? Why or why not? (see James 2:14-18).
 - e) In order to interpret this parable correctly, we need to identify who Jesus means by "the least of these brothers of mine." Read Matthew 10:5-20. What parallels are there between the apostles in this passage and the needy "brothers" of Jesus in Matthew 25? (also see Matthew 12:48-50 and Matthew 28:10).
 - f) If Jesus' brothers are disciples that he sends out to preach the gospel, what is the real reason the goats are judged in Matthew 25? (see Matthew 10:40-42).
 - g) How have you responded to those who have brought you the gospel? What does this say about your heart's response to God?
 - h) Think of those who are bringing Christ to the nations today. Many of them are poor and struggling. Some have been thrown into prison. How might you be a support and blessing to them?
7. Who do you know who needs to be told about Christ or reminded of his return?
8. Share prayer requests and pray together. Pray that we would all be ready for Christ's return.