

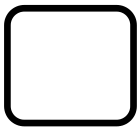
## GroupWork

Bible Study Discussion Starters

*Life application materials for use in Life Groups, home devotions, and other small groups.*

1. Sunday, March 17 is St. Patrick's Day! Any Irish people in your group? Are there any holidays or traditions you celebrate from your family's homeland?
2. Read the message text (John 12:20-33) and look at the message outline to remind you of the message.
  - a. What was memorable from the message? Share it with the group.
  - b. What question did the message raise in your mind? Discuss it as a group.
3. As you read Hebrews 5:7-9, ponder these two seemingly contradictory truths: Jesus can do whatever he wants—he's God. Jesus really wanted to avoid the cross—he's human.
  - a. Jesus fulfilled his commitment to save you even though it was extremely difficult for him. What impact does that have on your relationship with Jesus?
  - b. What if it was easy for him? What thoughts might creep into your mind then?
4. In verse 7 it says that Jesus was heard...but he didn't get what he asked for. He still had to obey and suffer. Read the following questions as a group and then discuss them:
  - a. What is the difference between being heard and getting what you asked for?
  - b. Which would you prefer, being heard or getting what you asked for? Why?
  - c. How does it make you feel that even Jesus—the only perfect person—didn't get what he asked for in prayer?
5. We can also see the LORD's commitment to us in Isaiah 43:1-7. In verse 1, there are three truths that describe the LORD's commitment to us. Which one stands out to you, and why? How does that statement emphasize God's truth: "You are mine"?
  - a. He made you.
  - b. He bought (redeemed) you.
  - c. He knows you by name.
6. The depth of the LORD's commitment to us is especially comforting when we face difficult times (vs 2). Do you have an example of the LORD being with you through the "waters" or the "flames" you are willing to share with the group?
7. Divide into groups of three or four and share prayer requests with each other. Pray for each other using gospel truths from verses 3-7:

"I am the LORD your God."	"Your Savior"
"You are precious and honored in my sight."	"I love you."
"I am with you."	"I created [you] for my glory."



# NoteSheet

Sermon Outline

Take notes during the sermon to help you remember the main points.

## THE COMMITMENT THAT TRULY MATTERS

John 12:20-33

We were playing with fire...

### 1. FOR JESUS -- He Knew Where He Was Headed

#### BURIED in the ground?!

- It IS the purpose of a **S**\_\_\_\_\_
- It is the **V**\_\_\_\_\_ of the Creator

#### HOPE for the world?!

- The Grave was a **C**\_\_\_\_\_!
- The Cross brought **C**\_\_\_\_\_!!

#### GROWTH to inspire and awe!

- “LIKE a **M**\_\_\_\_\_ **S**\_\_\_\_\_...”
- “The birds will come and **P**\_\_\_\_\_ in its shade.

**APPRECIATION** Holy Week for Jesus was always a matter of the heart!

### 2. FOR ME! -- His Eyes Were on the Prize

The Cross would win my **H**\_\_\_\_\_

- “Jesus” – a message of love

The Cross would claim my **L**\_\_\_\_\_

- “Jesus” – a message of love

The Cross would secure my **F**\_\_\_\_\_

- “Jesus” – a message of love

**APPLICATION** “Come near to God and he will come near to you.” **James 4:8**

**CONCLUSION** God knows we play with fire...but Holy Week is here! 😊

### NEXT STEPS

- **Read** the account in **Luke 22:47-48**. What irritates you about *Judas*? What surprises you about *Jesus*? What comforts you in the end?
- **Acknowledge** the *sin* you commit the most (\_\_\_\_\_). What is *comforting* about your Jesus? How does Jesus *inspire* your *living*?
- **Memorize Galatians 2:20** – “*I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God who loved me and gave himself for me.*”