September 1, 2024 The Bridge Bible Fellowship Abner Ramirez Zephaniah

Zephaniah - "The Day of the LORD"

Q. 1. Why was Israel about to face God's judgment? 1:2-6

A: Israel had ______ the LORD.

Q. 2. How was Israel to respond to God's judgment? 2:1-3 A: Israel had to ______ the LORD.

Q. 3. What would happen to Israel after God's judgment? 3:12-20A: Israel would be ______ by the LORD.

So what?

Discussion questions:

Idolatry:

What is your understanding of what an idol is?

Why do you think God so strongly prohibits idolatry?

How do people practice idolatry in our days? Give examples of both believers & unbelievers. Why do you think some religions believe & teach that it's ok to practice idolatry?

How can we avoid falling into the sin of idolatry?

What should be our response to the subtle or not-so subtle idols in our lives? How would you witness to some who you know is practicing idolatry?

God's judgment:

- Does God have a right to judge humanity? Why or why not?
- How do you respond to those who say "God knows I'm human so he understands"?
- Think of the old age excuse "I didn't know that was wrong, nobody told me"
- Will the claim to ignorance of God's law be enough to excuse anyone from facing His judgement & condemnation?
- What role does God's judgment & condemnation have in our presentation of the gospel?
- How does the reality of God's future judgment affect your daily life?

Repentance:

- What does it mean to repent & what's involved in the act of repentance? Give an example.
- Why do you think some people reject the call to repent from their sins?
- How would you respond to someone who says that "we don't need to repent since God has already forgiven all of our sins"?
- What are some sins for which you need to repent?
- What are some benefits of practicing daily repentance?

Our future hope:

- What hope does God give to those who repent and place their trust in Jesus?
- What is your understanding of eternal life and where does it come from?
- Most people think of eternal life only terms of *quantity* of time, but what about the *quality* of life. How do you think the quality of our life will change in eternity?
- There are many misconceptions regarding what heaven is like. What is your understanding of heaven? Where does that understanding come from?
- God's promised eternal blessings & rewards for our service to Him. What rewards are you looking forward to receiving? What should you be doing to secure those rewards?