

Message Discussion Guide

Date: November 19-20, 2022

Title: At the Movies, Week 3

Connect with Each Other:

Icebreakers

You can use these questions to break the ice in conversations as you start your group.

- What is your favorite moment in sports history?
- What small act of kindness did someone do for you this week?

Pray Together

- Praying for our team (family, church, friends) and for those who do not know Jesus and the sacrifices that He made for them. Pray for someone or a group of people that you would not ordinarily pray for and especially for your enemies.

Connect with God:

Message Summar

You may want to ask a group member to recap the message so everyone is ready to discuss the message, especially if some people missed gathering that weekend. If people are having a hard time remembering, you can use this summary to help give a recap.

- **Sticky statement:** Grace, truth, and sacrifice are how we bring the peace of God into this world.
- **Message Summary:** This weekend's movie was the story of Jackie Robinson. Pastor Mark uses the movie to illustrate that facing adversity sometimes requires stepping up and doing what we are called to do, pursuing our purpose. Following Jesus opens doors, but we decide if we will step through the door and use the opportunities to make a difference in God's kingdom. We are called to assume the best of others, being courageously faithful in our everyday life, and sacrificing our preferences and comfort for what God wants.

Key Bible Verses

"I know all the things you do, and I have opened a door for you that no one can close. You have little strength, yet you obeyed my word and did not deny me."

Revelation 3:8

<https://www.bible.com/bible/116/REV.3.8.NLT>

"God blesses those who work for peace, for they will be called the children of God."

Matthew 5:9

<https://www.bible.com/bible/116/MAT.5.9.NLT>

He walked away, about a stone's throw, and knelt down and prayed, 42“Father, if you are willing, please take this cup of suffering away from me. Yet I want your will to be done, not mine.” Then an angel from heaven appeared and strengthened him. 44He prayed more fervently, and he was in such agony of spirit that his sweat fell to the ground like great drops of blood.

Luke 22:41-44

<https://www.bible.com/bible/116/LUK.22.41.NLT>

And all of this is a gift from God, who brought us back to himself through Christ. And God has given us this task of reconciling people to him.

2 Corinthians 5:18

<https://www.bible.com/bible/116/2CO.5.18.NLT>

Discussion Questions

You can use these questions to help guide your discussion. Think through any helpful ways to preface the questions for your group (a quick recap of a part of the message, reading the associated verse together, etc.)

1. How does Jesus “open the door” for us? (Revelation 3:8)
2. What can we learn about working for peace from important figures in the American Civil Rights movement such as Jackie Robinson and Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.? (Matthew 5:9)
3. Where do we see grace, truth, and sacrifice in the life of Jesus? (Luke 22:41-42)
4. What does it mean for us to live with grace, truth, and sacrifice?
5. Have you found your spot on God’s team?
6. The following words are etched in Jackie Robinson’s tombstone, “a life is not important except in the impact it has on other lives.” How does this apply to our lives as followers of Jesus?
7. After hearing this week’s message, what next step is God calling you to take?