

NS LIFE GROUPS

NorthStar Church

Defining Moments: Death

2 Samuel 12:13-29

April 22, 2018

Main Idea: Death does not destroy me!

Icebreaker: Can you remember the first time death touched your life? How old were you? Did you struggle to understand it? Were you tempted to question, or maybe even blame God? (Allow group members to share their experiences.)

Study

Death impacts every single one of us and is one of the most painful experiences to walk through in life.

Read the following points from the sermon along with the corresponding scripture passages and discuss them in your group using the following questions.

Lessons on how to deal with death and dying:

1. Pray with all your heart. (2 Samuel 12:13-17)
 - a. What does it practically look like to truly pray and plead with all your heart compared to the way we normally pray for something?
 - b. Have you ever prayed this intensely for something?
2. Accept that death is part of God's plan. (2 Samuel 12:18-20)
 - a. How does this truth affect how we process the death of a loved one?
3. Look to God. (2 Samuel 12:20)
 - a. Why is it tempting for some to push God away when walking through the death of a loved one?
 - b. How is "Looking to God" practically lived out in your everyday life? What could this look like when walking through the loss of someone you love?
4. Continue to Live. (2 Samuel 12:21-23a, 24-29)
 - a. Has there ever been a time when you've experienced God's overwhelming peace in your life that allows you to continue even in the midst of a difficult, painful trial or loss?
5. Hope in Heaven. (2 Samuel 12:23)
 - a. How has the hope of heaven impacted the way you've grieved the loss of loved ones?
 - b. Can you imagine what life would be like if we didn't have this hope in the midst of death? (People who don't believe in Jesus have to grieve losses without this hope.)

Application

How could you use the truth of “Hope in Heaven” as a way of having a gospel conversation with a lost person who is walking through the death of a loved one?

Which of these truths was most impactful for you to hear?

Pray

Pray for each person in your group and their various requests. Pray that we remember that death does not destroy us nor define us. Pray that we learn to lean on God to discover His purpose and plan in the midst of our pain. Pray that God will bring these truths to our minds when we’re ministering to others when facing death.