



Pentecost: Sing a New Song REVELATION 5:1-10 | MAY 14 & 15, 2016

This past weekend was Pentecost weekend and we enjoyed the sermon of Jared Alcantara. Jared spoke on the gathering of the church and the reconciling of God's people through Christ. He spoke of the service, worship and unity of God's people invited into and not excluded from Heaven.

WITH THE GROUP



LEANING | BEGINNING TO CONNECT WITH THE TOPIC

Describe a time in your life when you felt excluded. What did that feel like and how did you deal with it?



LEARNING | GETTING CLEAR ON WHAT WAS TAUGHT

What is the significance of Pentecost Sunday? To what extent is Acts 2 a foretaste of Revelation 5 and God's purpose for humanity?

What was the source of lament and tears in the first few verses of Revelation 5? How did the problem that brought John to tears get resolved?



LOVING | GROWING OUR HEART FOR A LOVING GOD

What part of the sermon most intrigued you, challenged you, or helped you think differently about God's love for you?

God's love brings all his people together and he desires unity (Psalm 133, John 17:23). What is the difference between unity and uniformity?



LIVING | STARTING TO LIVE LIKE JESUS DAILY

What does it mean to "sing a new song"? How does that song impact your life and activity?

Jared quoted several objections some people have to serving in the church (mostly these were about being smart enough and qualified). How do you serve in the church? If you are not serving, what holds you back? Is there something the group could do or pray for that would help you serve meaningfully?

DIGGING DEEPER

In Revelation 5, the people in the church are called "Kingdoms." A kingdom is the area where the king's rules apply and are honored/observed. What would it mean for you to live out being a Kingdom? How is this done in day to day life?

GRADUATE LEVEL

In the Old Testament, Pentecost is the Greek translation of a festival on the 50th day after the start of Passover. This day celebrated God's provision through the Exodus and God's giving of the law through Moses. On this same day, in the New Testament, Pentecost recognizes the day the Holy Spirit came upon the Disciples and those gathered with them as well as the day Peter preached to people of all nations and they had understanding.

How do these Pentecost ideas and the images of heaven from Revelation portray a consistent vision of God's love for his people and desire to reconcile every tribe and tongue and nation to himself?