

July 12, 2015

FBC Life Groups

Nahum: Which side are you on?

God is a dread to haughty sinners & a soothing refuge to all who trust Him.

Prayer

Thank God for His gracious grace. Often we imagine our sin to be less serious or offensive to God than it actually is. When we are reminded of the nastiness of our sin and God's furious justice for sinners, we are better able to appreciate how gracious He has truly been towards us. How marvelous, how wonderful is the Savior's love for me!

Scripture Passage

Nahum 1:1-7 (Support Passages – Nahum 1-3; Jonah 1-4; John 3:16-21)
Read the passage aloud for the group.

Discussion Questions

1. Nearly the entire book of Nahum describes God's wrathful posture towards Nineveh and God's distribution of His wrath upon them. But verses 6 & 7 stand out as a beam of light amid this dark scene. How are the questions in verse 6 answered in verse 7? And why is this important? Explain.
 2. Why might it be beneficial and profitable for us to take a sober look at God's judgment upon an entire city like this?
 3. Why might it be beneficial and profitable for us to remember that God is perfectly just, and that His justice sometimes leads to a terrible punishment for sin?
 4. How might have a citizen of Nineveh described the city during the days prior to its destruction? How would it have been measured by worldly standards?
 5. What was God's perspective of the city of Nineveh as described in the book of Nahum? (see especially chapter 3, verses 1-7)
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Discussion Questions

6. How might our own lives sometimes be represented in the two different perspectives of Nineveh?
7. Who is the 'refuge' in Nahum 1:7, and why might it be important to remember that the one who provides refuge in v7 is the same one who is indignant in v6?
8. How has God provided the ultimate refuge from His own wrath towards sinners everywhere?
9. Read Nahum 3:5 and John 3:16-21. What are some similarities between these two passages?
 - A. Who is against whom in Nahum 3:5? And, Who is condemning whom in John 3:18?
 - B. Who is 'exposed' in Nahum 3:5? And, What does that mean in the context of the passage?
 - C. Who is afraid of the 'light' in John 3:19-20? And, Why?
10. Because God kept His word in the destruction of Nineveh, what does this say about God's character?
11. Why would the answer to question 10 be any comfort to one who has heard God's promise to save sinners through the person and work of Christ?

Prayer Requests

Suggested Resources

Specific Resources for this week:

An analysis of Nahum by James Dine
<http://www.sonilight.com/vandine/analyses/pdf/Nahum.pdf>

The Stronghold by Charles Spurgeon
<http://www.spurgeongems.org/vols43-45/chs2555.pdf>

Commentary on the passages by John Gill (especially Nahum 1:1-7)
<http://www.studylight.org/commentaries/geb/view.cgi?bk=33&ch=1>