

HOPE FOR EXILES

Week Two | The World | 11.13-14.2021

Grow Deep Conversation Questions: Use these questions to help you process the message in your personal time of study or with your group. Time suggestions are based on a 90-minute group gathering.

Message Recap: We can't believe what the Bible says about us and what the world says about us at the same time. There is a tension between our dueling realities; we are made in God's image with infinite dignity, value, and worth and broken, unable to save ourselves, that's a job only God can take on. Together we will look at how we stay on guard from its influence without forgetting God's power in our lives?

» Opening

(3 minutes)

- Introductions - This is especially important if this is your first meeting and if there are new members.
- Housekeeping - Clarify expectations:
 - Remind your group that this is a confidential meeting.
 - **Remember, there may be many thoughts and views. Please remain kind and respectful during conversations.**
- Pray - Open your time together in prayer.

» Introduction

(12 minutes)

- Ice-Breaker: What is a holiday gift-fad that you have gotten sucked into?
- Digging Deeper: What are the ways that you can lovingly care for people without embracing every view and value they hold?

» Observation | Read John 15:18-19; Colossians 2:20-23; Philippians 2:14-18; Romans 12:2

(12 minutes)

- What are your initial reactions to these passages? What do you find challenging? Are you encouraged by any of these verses? Why?

» Key Principle | Our world's operating system requires our rejection, not just an election.

(12 minutes)

- What are the easiest things for you to identify that are wrong with the systems all around us today? Why do you think that is?
- What are the hardest things for you to identify that are wrong with the systems all around us today and why?

» Identifying Systematic 'Sinnism' | Reread John 15:18-19

(12 minutes)

- How have politics and tribalism contributed to our inability to tell the difference between right and wrong according to God?

» Rejecting Self-Made Religion | Reread Colossians 2:20-23

(12 minutes)

- In this passage, Paul cautions his readers to avoid submitting to "regulations." What might some of these "regulations" be in our world today? What can we learn from Paul's warning?

» Embracing the Moral Minority | Reread Philippians 2:14-18; Romans 12:2

(12 minutes)

- What are some things in the world that are easy to "conform" to if we're not careful?
- In the Philippians passage, what are the things Paul urges his readers to avoid? Which of these are most difficult for you?

» Next Steps and Prayer |

(15 minutes)

- The world is vying for our allegiance and our attention all the time. What do you need to do to keep your focus on Jesus?
- Close by praying for each other to acknowledge the way the world is leading you and ask Jesus to help you set your heart on Him.