

Cell Group Lesson: The God Who Sees

Ice Breaker: If you could, would you want to live to be 100? If so, or if not, why?

Facilitator's Comments: Sometimes we may wonder if God hears or sees us as we live are daily lives, let's read what the Bibles says in Proverbs 15:3..

Read

Prov. 15:3 - The eyes of the LORD are in every place, beholding the evil and the good. KJV

Questions: Why do we wonder sometimes if the Lord really sees us, individually, at all times?

Answer: Some believe that:

- 1) God may be too busy to see every little detail of our lives, or
- 2) We've sinned, so we feel that God's not hearing our prayers, or
- 3) We don't *'feel His presence'* so, we feel that He is not present.

Facilitator's Comments: In Genesis 16, the story of Hagar is told. Hagar fled the oppression and affliction of Sarai. Hagar was alone in the wilderness, not knowing what to do, or where to turn. Then the angel of the Lord appeared to Hagar. Let's read about it...

Read

Genesis 16:7 - Now the Angel of the LORD found her by a spring of water in the wilderness, by the spring on the way to Shur. 8 And He said, "Hagar, Sarai's maid, where have you come from, and where are you going?" She said, "I am fleeing from the presence of my mistress Sarai." 9 The Angel of the LORD said to her, "Return to your mistress, and submit yourself under her hand." 10 Then the Angel of the LORD said to her, "I will multiply your descendants exceedingly, so that they shall not be counted for multitude." 11 And the Angel of the LORD said to her: "Behold, you are with child, And you shall bear a son. You shall call his name Ishmael, Because the LORD has heard your affliction. 12 He shall be a wild man; His hand shall be against every man, And every man's hand against him. And he shall dwell in the presence of all his brethren." 13 Then she called the name of the LORD who spoke to her, **You-Are-the-God-Who-Sees**; for she said, "Have I also here seen Him who sees me?" NKJV

Question: Why did Hagar say about God that "You-Are-the-God-Who-Sees"?

Answer: Because she was in the wilderness and with no hope and God showed up and asked her a question that showed that He knew all about her and cared for her:

- 1) God knew where her name,
- 2) God knew her occupation,
- 3) God cared about where she was coming from,
- 4) God cared about where she was going....

Facilitator's Comments: The book of Psalm has a beautiful verse in Chapter 46, verse 1, let's read it:

Read

Psalm 46:1 - God is our refuge and strength, A very present help in trouble. NKJV

Question: What do you believe it means when the Bible says that God is "A very present help in trouble"?

Answer: That like Hagar found out...God's always there whether we feel Him or not...and He's MOST there in times of trouble.

Facilitator's Comments: Let's take a lesson from the Robin and the Sparrow as we read the following poem, by Elizabeth Cheney

Read

Said the Robin to the Sparrow:

*"I should really like to know;
why these anxious human beings rush around and worry so."*

Said the Sparrow to the Robin:

*"Friend, I think that it must be --
that they have no Heavenly Father, such as cares for you and me."*

Question: Why are we sometimes ***not*** like the Robin and the Sparrow, in this poem?

Answer: 1) Sometimes when we don't see the answers to our problems, we can waste a lot of energy and nerves trying to do things ourselves.

2) We don't always remember that we are children of King and have access to His throne of Grace, continually.

Facilitator's Comments: God sees and hears us even us when we doubt Him, as He did in John 20. Thomas doubted that the Lord had risen from the dead and was alive.. Let's read, starting at verse 26...

Read

John 20:26 - And after eight days His disciples were again inside, and Thomas with them. Jesus came, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, "Peace to you!" 27 Then He said to Thomas, "Reach your finger here, and look at My hands; and reach your hand here, and put it into My side. Do not be unbelieving, but believing." 28 And Thomas answered and said to Him, "My Lord and my God!" NKJV

Question: Can you remember a time when you questioned God and He answered you and proved to you that He was faithful, even when you doubted Him?

Facilitator's Comments: Let's read the following story and commentary on trusting in the Lord who sees...

Read

1st Commentary

The following story reminds us that the fact that God sees us is all that really matters..

One night, a family was having dinner when a fire broke out in their home. As they rushed outside, the father noticed that the youngest girl was not with them. He looked up and saw his daughter standing at the second story bedroom window. The father ran to a place just under the window where his daughter was standing. As the fire grew, he called out for her to jump and that he would catch her. Through the billowing dark smoke she cried, "I can't jump, because I can't see you", to which the father replied, "It's OK that you can't see me, because I can see you."

Question: Why does this story build our faith in our Heavenly Father?

Answer: Because even though we can not always see Him, we can hear His voice, through reading the Bible, preaching, or a word of wisdom and encouragement ... telling us to trust Him.

Facilitator's Comments:

Sometimes we'll look for God and can't see Him, but we must have faith in the fact that God sees us, as Job did in Job 23..let's read

Read

Job 23:8 - "Look, I go forward, but He is not there, And backward, but I cannot perceive Him; 9 When He works on the left hand, I cannot behold Him; When He turns to the right hand, I cannot see Him. 10 But He knows the way that I take; When He has tested me, I shall come forth as gold. NKJV

Question: Why was Job so sure that he would come out better, from this trial, we he tried to look for God, but couldn't find Him?

Answer: Because it's most important that God knows where we're at. And those times that we don't see His Hand moving in our lives, are the times where we get the opportunity to have our faith grow and become more pure, pure as gold.

Question: How does **not seeing** God at every point in our trial build our faith?

Answer: We learn to believe that God is working things out for our good...no matter how good or bad the situation is right now, because He knows what is best for us and our growth in Him.

Facilitator's Comments: Let's read our final commentary for the lesson..

Read**Final Commentary**

You may be feeling the pressure and heat of your problems. You may not be able to see the "Hands of God" through the billowing smoke of your situation. Although *you* may not be able to see your Heavenly Father, what matters, is that *He* can see you and He's calling out for you to have faith in Him. So prayerfully *jump* into the faithful Hands of God, He's there and will catch and hold you in your most desperate of situations. Your situation currently may seem dark, but remember the words of Mary Brainard when she said, "*I would rather walk with God in the darkness, than go alone in the light.*"

Final Facilitator's Comments:

We must remember in darkness what we saw in the light. And that's the fact that:

- God sees all
- Cares for us all
- And for us, gave His all.

Let's stand and rejoice together in the fact that we are the Apple of His Eye.

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Poem

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