

DISCUSSION GUIDE [December 25, 2011]

Notes for the discussion leaders are in italics:

Discussion Opener

If you could have any superpower, what would you choose?

Message Thoughts

So, why do we need a Mighty God? Who will you call on when times get tough – when the storm is upon you and when there seems to be no hope? Most stories throughout literature in practically all cultures have a “hero” element to them. Overwhelming odds, dire situations, mankind on the fringe, families, companies, nations or humanity itself on the verge of extinction. Forces from without, from within or from beyond come against the plight of humanity and the question before us is who will step in save the day and how will they do it. We sit on the edge of our seats with popcorn and diet coke in hand wondering how this is going to work itself out.

Well, the Bible is a “hero” story too. Mankind is set on a stage of cosmic proportions. His plight is dire. The forces that come against us are overwhelming. Our chances – slim. I challenge anyone to put the Biblical epic against any “hero” story and you will find that it excels in every way. The stakes – Life or death, the survival of mankind and the stake of civilization. The enemy, Satan – the most diabolical force in the entire universe. The hero – Jesus Christ, the son of God, the hope of all mankind. The means – His church, that’s you and I. And not to give away the ending, but – God wins!

Discussion

1. Read Isaiah 9:6. Out of all the things we tend to want from life in general and God in particular, why do you think He specifically gave us a “Mighty God”? What does this name tell us about the character of God?
2. In what area in your life, if any, do you currently feel powerless?
3. Read Luke 8:22. Pastor David spoke about the storm the disciples were experiencing in the boat. He stated that, “it wasn’t that they didn’t know how to handle the boat. The problem was that their strength wasn’t going to do.” Why do you think we tend to want to do things on our own strength? Why do we wait to call upon our Mighty God for help?
4. Read Acts 1:8. How will Jesus’ followers be given power? What will they be given for? Is this what you ask God’s power for?
5. Pastor David challenged us with 4 reasons why we don’t ask our Mighty God for help.
 - a. We over estimate our own strength.
 - b. We are too proud.
 - c. We think we don’t want to bother God.
 - d. We under estimate His strength.In which of these areas can you most relate? Why?
6. How did Jesus display that he was the Mighty God? Look for specific scriptural examples of this.

Prayer

Spend time this week praying for any group members who feel powerless about circumstances in their life. Pray that God will show up in a new and mighty way now and in the New Year to come.