



Share | Study | Serve | Support

SHARE (5-10 MINS)

- 1) If your house was burning down, what three objects would you try to save?
- 2) What person from the Gospels do you most relate to, and why?

STUDY (ABOUT 30-45 MINS)

- 3) What stood out to you or encouraged you from the weekend worship service? Or your walk with God this week?
- 4) In our series through the Minor Prophets, we are going to overview Nahum-Malachi. Read **Nahum 1:2-3, 7**. How do we hold together the reality of God's justice and God's patience?

He is slow to anger, but he will bring justice. God's anger is perfect. He is only angry when anger is the right and fitting and called for. But he is patient with us, wanting us to take refuge in him, not wanting anyone to perish but everyone to repent and believe in Jesus.

- 5) Read **Habakkuk 3:17-19**. What does faithful trust look like when God's actions—or timing—don't make sense to us?

It looks like trusting him despite our temporary circumstances. We trust in him, his character and nature, not just what he gives us. Even when life is difficult, we still have him, relationship with him, confidence in him.

- 6) Read **Zephaniah 3:14-17**. Why do the prophets so often pair warnings of judgment with promises of restoration?

We need to understand the bad news before we grasp the good news. We can't understand restoration (salvation) without understanding judgment. The contrast between the two inspires a sober gratitude. To use an illustration, maybe it's like a good parent, after disciplining a child, connecting with them and affirming their love for them.

- 7) Read **Haggai 1:3-8**. What competes for first place in our lives, even when we genuinely want God to be central?

Comfort, control. Our individual "kingdoms." (our homes and lives). The praise and opinions of others. Certain relationships. Appearance, beauty, financial security.

- 8) Read **Zechariah 9:9-10**. How does Zechariah's vision of a humble king challenge worldly ideas of power and leadership?

We often admire arrogance and swagger; someone strong who never apologizes. Zechariah envisions the Davidic king (Jesus) coming in humility on a donkey. This challenged their view of leadership and challenges our as well. Jesus came to serve and give his life as a ransom for many. Godly leaders like Jesus put their people first. Worldly leaders put themselves first. Worldly leaders are vicious with their enemies, Jesus said to love your enemies.

- 9) Read **Malachi 1:6-8 & 3:1-4**. What are some modern ways people can drift into "half-hearted worship" without realizing it?

We can often have a half-hearted, self-centered, consumeristic view of church on Sunday morning, or life group during the week. God can sometimes be someone we go to only when we're desperate. We can have a casual and "when-it's-convenient" relationship with God, vs a "seek the kingdom first above all things" relationship with God.

- 10) Across the Twelve, what themes appear over and over again? What has encouraged or challenged you so far as we've looked at the prophets the last two weeks?

Judgment, confrontation, instruction, hope.

SUPPORT OPTIONAL SMALL GROUP TIME

We recommend that you break up into men/women groups for deeper discussion and prayer.

SERVING LEADERSHIP TIP

Strong Facilitation with Holy Spirit Sensitivity: Guide the group through the lesson with spiritual sensitivity to how the Lord is working. Prepare and facilitate well, but trust and listen to the Holy Spirit.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Man Camp 2026

- June 26-28 @ Ruth Hyde Camp
- Find out more on the Brotherhood page!

Middle School & High School Summer Camps

- MS - June 11-14 | HS - July 31-Aug 2
- Early bird registration open now on Youth page

Check out rivervalleychurch.co for more events!