

May 18 - Week 18 – Questions to Consider

Fun Small Group Warm Up Question:

What is your favorite movie?

Mark 16 ~ Luke 24 ~ John 20 ~ John 21 ~ Acts 1

1. Look at Mark 16:1-8 or Luke 24:1-12. When these ladies encountered the angels, they were overwhelmed with fear. What situations in life have overwhelmed you? How did God comfort you and carry you beyond those experiences forward to encounter Him and His peace?
2. Luke 24:8 “they remembered His words” but to others Luke 24:11 “these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them.” What Bible truths or passages did you once disbelieve but now bring you great strength, comfort and wisdom?
3. What is your favorite Bible verse or passage? How has God made your heart “burn within you” through His truth and power (Luke 24:32)?
4. Why do you think Jesus appeared several times in person to His disciples before His ascension to Heaven? Read Luke 24:45. Based on this verse, how should we pray before we hear a sermon, do a devotional, have a Sunday School class?
5. How does Luke 24:5-53 describe the disciples’ response after Jesus’ departure? How is it similar or different from Acts 1:6-11?
6. Read the story of Jesus’ encounter with Thomas in John 20:24-29. What stands out to you? What sort of doubts did you have before you became a Christian? What sort of doubts have you had since you became a Christian? How has Jesus increased your faith in your encounters with Him?
7. What is the purpose of the book of John? (John 20:31) Why do we need that reminder?
8. When we sin, how does that affect our relationship with God? Even though Peter failed Jesus in his abandonment and denials, how did Peter respond when he saw Jesus in John 21:7? How does that encourage us to respond when we sin? Who do you know who has been avoiding God (or Christians, the Bible, or church) out of guilt and shame and needs to hear this story? How could you share this story in an encouraging way?
9. How would you define mercy? Grace? In John 21:15-19 we see Jesus restore Peter. Why do you think God tells us about Peter’s restoration? What does that show us about His mercy? His grace? How does that comfort you in your past, present, and future failures? More questions at: www.southfork.church/2022-discussion-questions

Imperishable Beauty

1 Peter 3:1-6 (ESV)

[1] Likewise, wives, be subject to your own husbands, so that even if some do not obey the word, they may be won without a word by the conduct of their wives, [2] when they see your respectful and pure conduct. [3] Do not let your adorning be external—the braiding of hair and the putting on of gold jewelry, or the clothing you wear—[4] but **let your adorning be the hidden person of the heart with the imperishable beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which in God’s sight is very precious.** [5] For this is how the holy women who hoped in God used to adorn themselves, by submitting to their own husbands, [6] as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord. And you are her children, if you do good and do not fear anything that is frightening. (ESV)

Remember the Beauty of The Poor Widow

Luke 21:1-4 & Mark 12:41-44 (ESV)

See Who She Is - By The World’s Standards, a Nobody
See Who Is Watching - Nothing Escapes God’s View
See Where She Is - Your Worship Matters to Jesus
See What She Is Doing - Your Worship Is Significant to Jesus
See How Much She Is Giving - Loves the Lord Wholly
See Why She Is Giving - God-Focus, Not Self-Focus

What is beauty? “the quality or aggregate of qualities in a person or thing that gives pleasure to the senses or pleasurably exalts the mind or spirit” (Merriam-Webster)

Remember Physical Appearance Is:

1) A Gift from God - Not Earned or Deserved

- Jeremiah 9:23-24 ~ 1 Corinthians 4:7 ~ 1 Corinthians 13:4

2) I _____ - God Doesn’t Make Mistakes

- Psalm 139:14 “I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well.”

3) D_____ - Satan's Sin & Ours = Self-Focus

- Proverbs 31:30 "Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised."
- Vanity = "excessive pride in or admiration of one's own appearance or achievements."
- [King of Tyre/Satan?] - Ezekiel 28:17 "Your heart was proud because of your beauty; you corrupted your wisdom for the sake of your splendor. I cast you to the ground; I exposed you before kings, to feast their eyes on you."

4) F_____ - Physical Beauty Wastes Away

- 2 Corinthians 4:16–18 "So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. [17] For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, [18] as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal."

F_____ **On Who You Are More Than What You Look Like:** www.trustworthyword.com/what-does-the-bible-say-about-christian-identity

W_____ **& Imitate Women of Faith:**
www.trustworthyword.com/women

C_____ **Modesty In Your Attire & Hearts - Humble Faith, Love, Holiness, & Self-Control**

- 1 Timothy 2:8-15 "I desire then that in every place ... women should adorn themselves in respectable apparel, with modesty and self-control, not with braided hair and gold or pearls or costly attire, [10] but with what is proper for women who profess godliness—with good works. [11] Let a woman learn quietly with all submissiveness. [12] I do not permit a woman to teach or to exercise authority over a man; rather, she is to remain quiet. [13] For Adam was formed first, then Eve; [14]

and Adam was not deceived, but the woman was deceived and became a transgressor. [15] Yet she will be saved through childbearing—if they continue in faith and love and holiness, with self-control."

- Side note, an important topic (in the passage above) that you need to understand biblically: www.trustworthyword.com/women-pastors

R_____ **God's Love through Your Imperishable Gospel Beauty**

- 1 Peter 3:3-4 "Do not let your adorning be external—the braiding of hair and the putting on of gold jewelry, or the clothing you wear—[4] but let your adorning be the hidden person of the heart with the imperishable beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which in God's sight is very precious."
- Isaiah 52:7 "How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation"
- **Hidden Person of the Heart**
- **Respectful and Pure Conduct**
- **Gentle and Quiet Spirit**
- **In God's Sight, Is Very Precious**
- **Gospel Love & Gospel Truth**
 - **In Your Marriages, Parenting, Families, Relationships, Workplace, & Church**

The Gospel = God Created. Humans Sin. Jesus Died & Rose. We Turn, Trust, & Enjoy ~ *Is Jesus Your Lord and Savior?*

This Next Week's New Testament Reading Plan:

- Week 19: Acts 2 ~ Acts 3 ~ Acts 4 ~ Acts 5 ~ Acts 6
- **Hope & Purpose in Jesus:** www.southfork.church/jesus
- **Daily Verse by Text Message:** remind.com/join/sfbcdevo
- **Our Plan:** www.southfork.church/2022-bible-reading-plan

Imperishable Beauty

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The Widow’s Mite:

What do you have “to live on” in 2022?

Time, Treasures, Talents, Thoughts

Remember the Beauty of a Generous Heart!

- Mark 12:43–44 “she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.”
- Acts 20:35 “remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’”

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Remember Physical Appearance Is:

1) **A Gift from God - Not Earned or Deserved**

- Jeremiah 9:23–24 “Thus says the LORD: ‘Let not the wise man boast in his wisdom, let not the mighty man boast in his might, let not the rich man boast in his riches, [24] but let him who boasts boast in this, that he understands and knows me, that I am the LORD who practices steadfast love, justice, and righteousness in the earth. For in these things I delight, declares the LORD.’”
- 1 Corinthians 4:7 “For who sees anything different in you? What do you have that you did not receive? If then you received it, why do you boast as if you did not receive it?”
- 1 Corinthians 13:4 “Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant”

2) **Intentional - God Doesn’t Make Mistakes**

- Psalm 139:14 “I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well.”

3) **Dangerous - Satan’s Sin & Ours = Self-Focus**

- Proverbs 31:30 “Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised.”
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4) **Fades - Physical Beauty Wastes Away**

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Radiate God’s Love through Your Imperishable Gospel Beauty

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