

# RETRO SOUL STUDY QUESTIONS

FOR PERSONAL GROWTH OR DISCUSSION

JUNE 3, 2018

Retro means to imitate or copy something that has come before. When we talk about having a Retro Soul, we are talking about the idea of imitating or copying the faith of people whose souls were faithfully seeking God and His Kingdom. We will be spending the summer together as a church family looking into the Old Testament with the goal of strengthening our Retro Souls.

- 1 What did you enjoy most about John's message from this past Sunday?
- 2 Who is someone from your past that had a soul worth imitating or copying? Explain why you chose this person.
- 3 What characters from the Old Testament are your favorite souls you would like to develop your Retro Soul after?
- 4 Read the story of Naaman in 2 Kings 5:1-27. What stands out to you from this story? Which characters can you relate to? How do you relate to them?
- 5 In verses 2-3, we are introduced to a young girl who has been taken into captivity, her freedom of youth has been taken, and she is forced into slavery in a strange place with people that aren't her people. She is alone. From her response, what can your soul learn about loving God and others from the young girl?
- 6 In verses 11-13, Naaman is looking for the big miraculous event to cause his healing, based on who he is as a "great man" and "champion," but what he gets are simple steps of obedience. Nothing miraculous, nothing great, nothing showy. How can you relate to his struggle to follow God with the simple obedience? Why do you think God often works in 1000 small steps for change instead of one big event?
- 7 Read verses 17-19 again. Naaman is struggling with having to live out his faith in the place where God has him, in the temple of Rimmon. He will be in a position that compromises him.
  - A What are your thoughts of Naaman's request for dirt and forgiveness?

- B What about Elisha giving his blessing for Naaman to return and serve the king of Aram?
  - C In what ways are you put in positions of compromise, struggle or fuzzy areas of faith because of work, family, friends, life, or places God has put you? How do you handle those situations?
- 8 The common understanding of the world and religion during this time is that the very dirt was sacred because the deity of the location was there - to worship that deity, you had to be on the dirt. In verse 17, Naaman asks for dirt to worship on. Today, we would associate this with worship that takes place only at church on the weekend, but not the rest of the week.
- A How do you find yourself living your life divided when it comes to worship?
  - B What areas do you consider worship or sacred and what areas are not?
  - C How have you or are you developing your soul to see all of life as worship?
- 9 Read the story in John 4:19-24.
- A How does the woman's question in John 4 connect to the request of Naaman for dirt to worship on? What framework is she working from?
  - B How does the response from Jesus confront her worldview of worship?
  - C How does Jesus' response to the woman set you free in worship? How can your day-to-day responsibilities and places you find yourself throughout the week become spaces of worship?
- 10 How do you hope your own soul will change as a result of this study, and become a little more retro? What do you think will be the most significant obstacles to that change, and how do you plan to overcome them?