

RETRO SOUL STUDY QUESTIONS

FOR PERSONAL GROWTH OR DISCUSSION

JUNE 10, 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 The examples and wisdom found in stories from the past only find birth in our Retro Souls when we choose to take action and implement them.
 - A What Retro Soul thoughts from the first week of the series did you find yourself dwelling on or trying to implement into your life this past week?

 - B How have you bolstered your Retro Soul this past week?

- 2 What did you enjoy most about John's message this past Sunday?

- 3 Read the story of the siege of Samaria in 2 Kings 6:24-7:20. What stands out to you from this story? Which characters can you relate to? How do you relate to them?

- 4 2 Kings 6:24-30 explains the severity of the siege on the capital city of Samaria. The king of Israel during this time was Joram. As a ruler, he continued to do evil before God. Consequently, God sent a severe famine on the nation of Israel to turn Israel back to Himself.
 - A Have you ever had a time in your life when your soul, family, job, or church felt like it was under siege to the point that desperation set in, even to the point that you begged God to show up?

 - B Looking back, how did God use that time to mature and grow your soul closer to him? What benefits did you find in the journey?

- 5 In 2 Kings 7:5-7, we see that God had already set the city free before the city even knew they were free. Maybe you find yourself in the middle of a siege at the moment, what hope can you draw from knowing "the Lord caused" freedom to come? How can this encourage, shape your thoughts, and bolster your Retro Soul?

- 6 Mercy is a moment when we receive goodness and kindness from God, even when we have done nothing to deserve it. When in your life have you received or experienced mercy? How did you receive it? What did it look like?
- 7 There are 4 unlikely heroes in this story, 4 men with leprosy. They are outsiders and outcasts God invites to be the first recipients of the miracle. How is the story of these Lepers really a story about us and the gospel?
- 8 In 2 Kings 7:9, the Lepers make a profound discovery about doing what's right with what they have received. You were blessed to be a blessing. God has entrusted each of us with, as the Lepers say, "a day of good news."
- A Look at your life, your blessings, your salvation, and your resources. How has God positioned you to pass on and be a blessing to others with what you have received?
- B A noteworthy thought is that we receive before we give. What is a decision or commitment you could make today to respond like the Lepers did in giving outward from what you have received?
- 9 Read the story of the 10 Lepers in Luke 17:11-18. Just one of the ten ends up in a posture of worship for all that Jesus had done for him.
- A What is the posture of your Retro Soul for the "good news" that Jesus has brought in your life? Do you find yourself in a natural posture of worship out of gratitude or are you hardened to the beauty of your own rescue?
- B The Leper's life was under siege, he could not bring relief on his own. Who in your life is in a similar position? How does God want to use you to bring freedom to their siege?
- C What active faith step can you take today to move toward that person to see Jesus set them free? Put a deadline on when you will make a move toward them - be clear with what this is, pray for God to work before you even get there.
- 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?