

THE BIG TEN

• All In Group Discussion Guide •
Week of Oct 16

SCRIPTURE

Joshua 24:14-24

Now, therefore, revere the Lord and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt and serve the Lord. 15 Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living, but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.”

16 Then the people answered, “Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods, 17 for it is the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went and among all the peoples through whom we passed, 18 and the Lord drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God.”

19 But Joshua said to the people, “You cannot serve the Lord, for he is a holy God. He is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions or your sins. 20 If you forsake the Lord and serve foreign gods, then he will turn and do you harm and consume you, after having done you good.” 21 And the people said to Joshua, “No, we will serve the Lord!”

22 Then Joshua said to the people, “You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the Lord, to serve him.” And they said, “We are witnesses.” 23 He said, “Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your hearts to the Lord, the God of Israel.” 24 The people said to Joshua, “The Lord our God we will serve, and him we will obey.”

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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Introductions:

- What is one thing you're bad at? Maybe a subject, a hobby, a skill, or otherwise.

Scripture Reflection:

- How does this week's passage connect to previous weeks?
- What does this passage tell us about ourselves?

Sermon Reflection:

- What is one new thing you have learned about the story of Scripture so far in this sermon series? Has it surprised you?
- What are you tempted to serve instead of God? What makes them appealing?
- Pastor Lara talks about the three uses of the law: as a guide, a curb, and a mirror. What is lost if we don't have all three of these things?
- Pastor Lara talked about how we can not live up to the law. How does this land with you? Is it a challenge? An encouragement? Confusing?

Closing Question & Application:

- How might you lay down the pressures of perfectionism this week?
- To whom might you need to extend grace this week?

Prayer: *(save a little extra time for this)*

- This week, we invite you to do an "agreement prayer." Have one person open and close in prayer. In the middle allow people space to pray "in agreement" about one topic: reconciliation. Where in your lives, communities, and world do we need to ask God to bring forgiveness and reconciliation?

We encourage you to begin contemplating your 2023 Pledge to First Pres.