## **Growth Group Discussion Questions**

Series: "Watch Out For Lesser gods"- Part 3"

"Jeroboam: Wasting The Privileges You've Been Given"
Week of March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Message Summary: God picked Jeroboam to be king, a privilege that was not in his family history or expectations. God just picked him and made him the promise we have heard many times... IF you will keep my commands, IF you will obey me, IF you will worship me and not turn to other gods, then I will support your reign as king and you will have great success in all you do! Notice the progression... a promise of God's blessing that must be met with a response of faithfulness! Sadly, Jeroboam didn't fulfill his end of the deal. He welcomed in the lesser god of "wasting the privilege he'd been given" and wrecked his reign!

Even through COVID, we have been given great privilege by God as His children, to represent Him in all we do. He hears our prayers, He lifts our burdens, He favors His followers! With all that on our side, should we be shrinking back OR grabbing onto every opportunity He gives us, to lift Him up to a lost and dying world? Let's not waste our privilege since our time is short.

## ICE BREAKER

1. Since Daylight Savings time is happening this coming weekend, and we'll progressively have more hours of daylight, what are some things you look forward to doing with the added daylight?

## **GOING DEEPER**

2. As Christians we have "privileges" given to us by God that we exclusively enjoy. Some relate to our standing with God and some relate to our responsibilities as members of his family. Look at the verses below and answer the questions that follow:

Romans 8:28 "And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them."

a. What is the "privilege" that God allows "Believers- only" to participate in that's described in this verse?

Prov. 15:29 "The LORD is far from the wicked, but he hears the prayers of the righteous."

a. So, does God hear the prayers of every person? Why or why not?

John 14:27 "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid."

a. What a privilege it is to know where real peace is found. Where or who is the source of real peace, and is it available to everyone?

John 17:15 "I'm not asking you to take them out of the world, but to keep them safe from the evil one. 16 They do not belong to this world any more than I do. 17 Make them holy by your truth; teach them your word, which is truth."

- a. It is a privilege to know that Jesus asks the Father to protect His followers from the evil one. What does it mean that we do not belong to this world any more than Jesus does?
- b. Jesus wants us to be holy. What is it? How does it happen as outlined in verse 17 above?

John 13:34 "So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. 35 Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples."

a. We also have responsibilities because of our privileged position in Christ. What responsibilities do we have according to the passage above? What is the unmistakable mark of a Christian (disciple) described in verse 35?

## 3. The story of the three servants in Matt. 25:14-30 and answer the question below:

- a. Notice that the three servants were given different amounts of resources to manage for the owner. Why do you think each one was given a different amount to manage?
- b. When the owner returned, he settled accounts with them. What was his response to the first two servants and what they did in his absence?
- c. Why do you think the response to the servant who buried the money he was given to manage, was so harsh?
- d. What were the charges that the unworthy servant made when explaining himself to the master, for his actions? Why would he berate the master when the spotlight was on him?
- e. How is this story a look forward into our future in heaven?
- f. What do we learn from the parable that will help us going forward as Jesus followers?