



LIFE GROUPS DISCUSSION GUIDE

October 11, 2020

Atonement – 2 Samuel 6

Celebrate

1. Mercy is lovingkindness and compassion given when it is not deserved. Can you think of a time in your life when someone offered you mercy and you know you didn't deserve it? Has there been a situation in which you chose to be merciful to someone, even though it was clear that person didn't deserve it? If so, why were you merciful?

Connect

2. The Ark of the Covenant had a prominent place in the lives of the people of Israel. Take a moment and read Exodus 25:10-22. What stands out to you about the description of the Ark of the Covenant? What might be the significance of this gold-covered box? Pay special attention to verse 22 and the idea that God would meet with us from a seat of mercy. You might also see Leviticus 16.
3. Second Samuel 5:17-25 tells us that "David inquired of the LORD" regarding his military engagements with the Philistines. Contrast this with 1 Chronicles 13:1-4, when David was exploring what to do with the Ark of the Covenant. What are the differences and why might these differences matter?
4. In light of the previous question, read 2 Samuel 6:5-11. Why did God strike down Uzzah, especially since the man was trying to keep the ark from toppling over? How did the actions of David and those around compare or contrast with God's direction found in Exodus 25? Why did David's second attempt (2 Samuel 6:12ff) with moving the ark to Jerusalem prove so joyous?
5. Leviticus 16:11-19 tells of the Hebrew high priest sprinkling blood on the Ark of the Covenant. Why did he do that? See verse 16 for help.
6. Hebrews 9:11-15 highlights that Jesus' blood does what the blood sprinkled on the Ark of the Covenant could not do. What does that mean? See also Ephesians 1:7.

Contribute

7. What could it look like for you to present the gospel to another person using Ephesians 1:7? Talk about this as a group.
8. Luke 6:36 finds Jesus telling the multitudes to "be merciful even as [their] heavenly Father is merciful." In light of the mercies of God for you, demonstrated clearly through the shed blood of Jesus Christ, how might you be merciful this week to those around you?