

Witness

Gather (your tent getting to know each other)

We often find ourselves giving a good word for someone or something. Pick one of the following questions to kick start your discussion for this week.

- How do you remember important things? What reminders do you set in place?
- Talk about a time where you were called upon to be a witness or to give testimony about someone. What do you remember about it?

Grow (your tent growing as Christ-followers)

- Take a few minutes and reflect on Sunday's service and dedication. What impacted you the most?
- Read Joshua 24:24-28 in two translations.
- Watch and discuss the "Episode Four: Witness" teaching video.
- The people of Israel gave testimony to who they would follow and obey. Recall again the time when you chose to follow Jesus as your Lord and Savior.
 - What was going on in your life at the time?
 - What did you confess to Him and to others?
 - What was it that convinced you to follow Him?
 - If you are still deciding to follow Jesus, what intrigues you about becoming a Christ-follower?
- The covenant renewal between Israel and God has happened before. Take a look at Joshua 8:30-35. Joshua is obedient to the instructions Moses gave him in Deuteronomy 27:1-8.
 - What similarities or differences do you see between these two covenant renewals?
 - Take note of the people listed in the Joshua 8 passage. What does that list teach us about God's covenant?
 - Recall any scripture that indicates who can be included in a covenant relationship with Jesus?
- Isaiah reminds Israel that God is a covenant making and a covenant keeping God. Read Isaiah 43:10-13 and Isaiah 46:8-11. What do these passages say about God and Israel?
- In his letter to the Colossians church, Paul gives witness to the preeminence of Jesus. As you read Colossians 1:15-20 aloud, emphasis all the "he and him" pronouns.
 - What statements about Jesus resonate with you the most?
 - Which statements can you give personal witness to?
- Paul encourages the Colossians to live out their witness. What specific instructions does he give them in Colossians 2:6-7? Which of those instructions are particularly helpful for you?
- Which of this week's Daily Readings impacting you the most?
- We are designed to follow Christ best within the context of other Christ-followers. Read Hebrews 10:19-25. What covenant talk do you hear in this passage? Give witness to how your tent has helped you grow in your walk with Jesus.
- Joshua 24 is all about the covenant relationship between God and his people. Joshua deeply desires for Israel to fully live out this life-giving relationship with Yahweh. Take a moment and review the last four weeks.
 - Week One: we were challenged to remember our history with Jesus.
 - Week Two: we were challenged to resolve once and for all who we will follow; the world, or Jesus.
 - Week Three: we were challenged to repent of any and all the things that keep us from fully following Jesus.

Witness

○ This week: we are being challenged to give witness to our covenant with Jesus. Jesus desires for his people to fully live out the deeply personal and communal alliance with him and his people. Take time to complete the "Witness" portion of the **Your Covenant Story** resource.

Give (your tent serving each other)

- As Christ-followers we have great opportunities to celebrate our covenant relationship with Jesus. The discipline of celebration is all about giving witness to the wonder-filled things he has done for us, in us, and through us. As a group, write out all the happenings (answered prayers, praises, wonders, miraculous situations, etc.) you have seen Jesus fulfill. Use this list to guide your prayer time.

Go (your tent on mission)

- The word witness in Joshua 24 means "to tell what one has seen." As you prepare to influence the world around you this week, pray specifically for the following opportunities:
 - Tell someone what you have seen Jesus do in your life.
 - Ask your family (current or of origin) what they know to be true about Jesus.
 - Decide upon a "covenant reminder" that will help you remember your commitment to the Lord. It could be a cross, a family seal, or a particular heirloom. Put this reminder in a prominent place in your home or workplace. Every time you see it, pause and celebrate the covenant relationship you have with Jesus.
- Continue reading the 40-day experience.