

2007-08 BSP#10 Group Time Discussion

L – Low, M – Medium, and H – High, indicate the difficulty of a question. Group leaders should select questions that are challenging to their groups but not so difficult that their group members cannot answer.

(A) “He Opened to Us the Scriptures” – Scripture-Related Questions for Reflection and Discussion (Time available: 10 minutes. Do at least 2 questions.)

1. [L] Read Gen 11:1-4. The land of Shinar is Babylon, Iraq of the modern era. What disaster happened when the first city was built (see Genesis 4:17)? What happened this time (read Gen 11:5-9)?
2. [M] Why did man rebel again?
3. [H] Read Gen 10:8-12. The capital of Assyria, Nineveh, is mentioned as one of Nimrod’s cities. Nimrod was a hunter who had seen too much blood and death. What do you think was the character of his city Nineveh? Jonah was sent by God to go to Nineveh to ask the people there to repent their sins. Why do you think Jonah was reluctant to carry out God’s instruction? What happened in 722 BC, 40 years after Jonah? (*Source: SH p.40.*)

(B) “Did Not Our Hearts Burn?” – Question(s) for Group Meditation and Prayerful Reflection. (Suggested time: 10 minutes)

Sometimes Catholics are accused by others of caring more about the outward forms of sacraments than about the direct encounter with Jesus that they are meant to give. This shows up in people who would never miss Mass, who go to Confession, but who seem not to have a living, vital relationship with God. If they are people who do not exhibit the fruit of the Spirit in their lives – such as kindness, self-control, and especially charity – then they appear to outsiders as people who could gaze on a rainbow and not meet the God who set it in the sky. Do you know people like that? What advice do you have for them?