SMALL GROUP STUDY GUIDE

November 3, 2024 All Saints Day 2024: "Footsteps"

OPENING PRAYER

Heavenly Father, we thank you for the footsteps of the people who have followed you before us. We thank you that through their actions, we can better know who you are. Today we ask that you guide our discussion – and our own footsteps – according to your Word. Help us to consider the example that we set for others who are growing in their faith; and help us to support each other and walk together as we seek to follow you. We pray this in the powerful and matchless name of Jesus. Amen.

SCRIPTURE PASSAGES

1 John 2:3-10 (NIV)

³ We know that we have come to know him if we keep his commands. ⁴ Whoever says, "I know him," but does not do what he commands is a liar, and the truth is not in that person. ⁵ But if anyone obeys his word, love for God is truly made complete in them. This is how we know we are in him: ⁶ Whoever claims to live in him must live as Jesus did.

⁷Dear friends, I am not writing you a new command but an old one, which you have had since the beginning. This old command is the message you have heard. ⁸ Yet I am writing you a new command; its truth is seen in him and in you, because the darkness is passing and the true light is already shining. ⁹ Anyone who claims to be in the light but hates a brother or sister is still in the darkness. ¹⁰ Anyone who loves their brother and sister lives in the light, and there is nothing in them to make them stumble.

Psalm 119:101-105 (NIV)

- ¹⁰¹ I have kept my feet from every evil path so that I might obey your word.
- ¹⁰² I have not departed from your laws, for you yourself have taught me.
- ¹⁰³ How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth!
- ¹⁰⁴ I gain understanding from your precepts; therefore I hate every wrong path.
- ¹⁰⁵ Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.

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INTRODUCTION

The All Saints Day message, "Footsteps," remembers members of Asbury Church who have died in the last year whose footsteps have influenced us and how, as Jesus followers, our footsteps make a difference in the lives of others as we live out our faith.

Our lives are formed by those who have come before us – loved ones, religious figures, teachers, and many more people have all helped to lead us to where we are today. During this group session, consider how walking in the footsteps of those people has influenced your life; and how you will intentionally take footsteps for those following you to walk in as they seek to be better followers of Jesus.

QUESTIONS

- All Saints Day is set aside to remember those who have gone before us in the past year. As we begin this group time about the "footsteps" that we follow in, is there someone influential to you who you lost that you'd like to tell the group about?
- 2. What person whether they are still with us or have passed on has most influenced your walk with Jesus? What are some things that you have learned from that person through walking in their "footsteps?"
- 3. Read 1 John 2:3-10 (on page 1). How has walking "in the light" helped you to walk a straighter path when it comes to loving others? How do you think that example has influenced those around you?
- 4. Read Psalm 119:101-105 (on page 1). How can God's word impact not just your faith but every footstep you leave in your life? Are there particular verses or passages that have been important guideposts to you as you've lived out your faith?
- 5. When have you felt Jesus calling you to leave a legacy with your own footsteps whether as audacious as to leave your career to follow a new way of living (as the apostles did), or as simple as going out of your way to show kindness to somebody? How did following that calling change you? How did it better the life of someone else?

FINAL APPLICATION

Consider this week how your footsteps – the actions you take, the way that you show kindness and love, and the person you are – can leave a legacy for others to follow in.