

IS GOD



Is God... Angry?

January 7&8, 2017 – John Ortberg

Note to Leaders: Every small group is different, so we are providing a summary study with additional discussion questions in the Going Deeper section. Please choose the questions that relate best to your particular group.

Follow up from last week: Share with the group one thing you will remember from this recent Christmas season.

Connect

- 1. What stood out to you from this weekend's sermon, "Is God Angry?"
- 2. Describe the type of upbringing you had as a child and how it affected your view of God.

Engage

1. Read Numbers 32:13, 2 Samuel 6:6-8, James 1:19-20
 - Why was God so angry in the first two situations?
 - Why does James imply that God's anger produces goodness while human anger does not?
2. Read Jeremiah 31:3
 - Recall what has happened in the past for the Israelites – wandering in the wilderness, entering the Promised Land, and many years of kings. What is God assuring the Israelites in this verse?
 - How is it that God is able to "never quit loving" the Israelites even through periods that he was angry with them?

Apply

- 1. How is God's demonstrated love for the people of Israel, even amid his anger towards their actions, relevant to us?
- 2. How does knowing that God has never quit loving you (and never will) affect you?
- 3. Based on what you have learned, how can you respond to someone who struggles to reconcile the idea of a loving God also being a God who expresses anger?

Pray

Suggest everyone to pray silently and thanking God for never quitting to love them and never will.

Going Deeper

Connect

Are there things in your past or present that you feel God is still angry at?
How does this affect your relationship with God?

Engage

Read Luke 23:34

- How is it that Jesus is able to ask God to forgive us while hanging on the cross?

Apply

How will you apply the knowledge that God has forgiven all of your sins - past, present, and future?

Learning Opportunity

Do you or your friends, neighbors and/or co-workers have questions about God that are troubling? Try Alpha. Menlo Church has two Alpha classes beginning in January (<http://menlo.church/alpha>).

