

HOME STUDY QUESTIONS & MESSAGE SUPPLEMENT

Sunday, September 27, 2020: “EPICENTER: The Power of Opportunity”... I Kings 8:41-43

Thinking about it:

What is the main difference between gatherings at places like Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) or Weight Watchers (WW) as compared to gatherings at baseball games and concerts?

To whom is the opportunity available to purchase tickets and attend baseball games and concerts?

To whom is the opportunity available to attend AA and WW gatherings?

With these opportunities being available to everyone... Why is it “O.K.” for so many to drink beer and consume mass amounts of junk food at a baseball game, but NOT O.K. to bring beer to an AA meeting or donuts to a WW group? What would happen to the “welcome” of individuals at AA and WW who continue to undermine the purpose of the groups?

From Sunday’s Message: “EPICENTER: The Power of Opportunity... I Kings 8:41-43

Solomon’s prayer includes the Gentiles (“*the foreigner who does not belong to our people Israel*”) in the opportunity to be in relationship with God. The opportunity is open to “*whosoever believeth*” and is not limited by ethnicity or previous experience. Coming “*because of*” God’s Name is an act of faith in God, and through faith, all peoples are included in the benefits of being in right relationship with God! As the Law was the expression of right relationship with God at that time, the same law applied to all who came to join “Israel”. This Kingdom opportunity is not a respecter of persons. No seeker should let their earthly status hinder them from coming in faith. Every believer is a steward of this message as the perfect “equal opportunity” that it is. We are to love, care, share and reach all peoples for the Kingdom’s sake!

(you can watch the message at <https://www.youtube.com/user/CerritosNazarene>)

Read & Respond:

Acts 10:9-48 What did God teach Peter?

Acts 11:1-18 What did Peter teach the Judean believers?

Acts 15:1-29 How did the council at Jerusalem handle their stewardship of the equal opportunity of faith in Jesus for all peoples?

Why? (vs. 19)

What was the result? (vs. 31-32)

How are we supposed to be good stewards of this “equal opportunity” in our world today?

PRAY: *Thank God that he allowed you into the opportunity of salvation! Ask Him to help you see all peoples of all ethnicities and cultures the way He sees them. Commit to live your life as a steward of the amazing opportunity of salvation by better loving, caring, sharing, and reaching all peoples!*