# If My People, Part 1 Dave Patterson 10.04.2020

## **USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE**

We have provided all the Scriptures references in the sermon and some discussion questions for you to use to facilitate a discussion.

This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group. For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session together.

While the questions are important, remember your group's goal is not to get through the questions, but to create an atmosphere that will foster true friendships.

Use the discussion questions as you see fit but emphasize the relationships.

IF... MY... PEOPLE...

There's a place for you to stand in the Kingdom of God for a clear perspective.

# [2 Chronicles 7:11-15, AMP]

And so Solomon finished the house (temple) of the LORD and the palace of the king. He successfully accomplished all that he had planned to do in the house of the LORD and in his palace.

Then the LORD appeared to Solomon by night and said to him: "I have heard your prayer and have chosen this place for Myself as a house of sacrifice and prayer. <sup>13</sup> If I shut up the heavens so that no rain falls, or if I command locusts to devour the land, or if I send pestilence and plague among My people, <sup>14</sup> Then, <u>if My people</u>, who are called by My Name, humble themselves, and

pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear [them] from heaven, and forgive their sin and heal their land. <sup>15</sup> My eyes will be open and My ears attentive to prayer offered in this place. <sup>16</sup> For now I have chosen and sanctified and set apart for My purpose this house that My Name may be here forever, and My eyes and My heart will be here perpetually.

God's eyes, His heart, and His desire are here with you today.

Our worship is bigger than you know: it is filling the bowls in heaven; we are standing at the precipice of God pouring out His Spirit.

I don't want what I deserve but what I need: the grace of God.

The Law of Intercession overrides the Law of Sowing and Reaping.

# [Proverbs 14:34, AMP]

Godliness and righteousness exalt a nation, but sin condemns and brings disgrace to the people in the land.

- 1. Position our lives under His name.
  - "if my people called by my name..."
- 2. Humble our souls.

"if my people who are called by my name will humble themselves"

God is looking to His Bride to stand in this place of intercession.

When you humble yourself with fasting, He elevates.

# [Psalm 35:13, AMP]

"I humbled my soul with fasting, And I prayed with my head bowed..."

## "IF MY PEOPLE"

21 DAY ALL CHURCH FAST October 13<sup>th</sup> - November 2<sup>nd</sup>

- PUSUIT Devotional books
- Worship Lunches (check your campus for details)
  - Daily Devotions on Instagram and TFH APP

## 3. Seek His face.

"Then if my people will...pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways"

The seeking creates a turning: if you turn toward God, He turns toward you.

## [Jeremiah 29:13, AMP]

Then [with a deep longing] you will seek Me and require Me [as a vital necessity] and [you will] find Me when you search for Me with all your heart.

Seek = to require as a necessity, to crave Search = to frequent, to create a well-worn path

#### FOR MONDAY—

1. Get somewhere quiet and away from distraction to seek an elevated perspective on what God is doing.

2. Take a posture of humility in one of your personal interactions this week.

### TALK IT THROUGH

- 1. What flags do you see people waving over their lives right now? Historically, how have you seen these platforms unite or divide?
- 2. How does the conjunction "If" impact the response of God to His people? Which side of "If" do you stand on? [2 Chronicles 7:14] What does God accomplish in *us* through our action?
- 3. When was God kind and patient with you? How did you personally experience His mercy at that time?
- 4. What's our posture as Bible-believing people of faith in these days? How do we position ourselves under His name?
- 5. Reflecting on the Old Testament, what was the pattern of how God's people would turn in a direction after He provided and blessed? Why do you think people cycled that way? How do we see this play out culturally today? What is the resolution?
- 6. How can we stay grounded in God and follow His lead during this current socio-cultural and political climate?
- 7. Regardless of our political choices, how can we stay Christlike and united with one another?
- 8. Pray for unity and for the Church to arise with authority under the banner of Jesus.