

Growth Group Homework

For the week of 01-15-2023

Adapted from Warren Wiersbe, Be Counted, Chariot Victor Publishing, Colorado Springs, CO, 1999, p. 162; James Galvin, ed., et al., New Testament Lesson Maker, NavPress, Colorado Springs, CO, 1992, pp. 142.

Getting Started:

1. Often our perception of God can become skewed toward one extreme or the other. Do you find yourself emphasizing God's mercy over his judgement, his judgement over his mercy, or maintaining a healthy balance of both?

Digging Deeper:

2. Though the people of Israel were wrong in getting entangled with the Midianites at Baal Peor (Numbers 25:1ff), Midian was wrong in following Balaam's counsel (31:16) and trying to destroy Israel. The time had come for God to punish Midian (Numbers 25:16-18; 31:1-18). According to Jesus, how does God feel about us leading others into sin (Luke 17:1-2)? How can we guard against tempting others to sin? What should you do if you discover that you have encouraged another believer to sin?
3. The instructions to Israel to annihilate the Canaanites through holy war were both limited and specific in time, intent, and geography (see Deut. 20:10-18). Could Christians ever rightly engage in a "holy war" now? Why or why not? (Among other texts, you could consider Matt. 5:38-48; 26:52; John 18:36; Eph. 6:10-18; 2 Cor. 10:1-6; 1 Peter 3:8-17)