



FOUR FEARS

The Fear of Ridicule

MAIN THING

What Christ has done for us, we do for the world.

SCRIPTURE

Proverbs 9:7, Proverbs 9:12, Proverbs 19:29, Luke 23:32-37, Galatians 6:9

ICEBREAKER

Have you ever been verbally bullied? How did that feel? How did you react?

OPENING THOUGHT

For all of us, the thought of being ridiculed is never a good one. It makes us feel as though we are worth less, that we aren't good enough, or that we are just plain wrong. Many times, to avoid that feeling, we will succumb to the pressures of others. We will allow that ridicule to direct our paths and cause us to second guess ourselves and what we believe. Other times, we fight back with vitriol, and we make the situation even worse. In this session, we'll discuss how to properly handle ridicule.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What was one thing that stood out to you from this weekend's message?
2. The first point from this past week's message was that "Ridicule is a weapon used to keep you in your place." What does that mean? Has that happened to you? What does Proverbs 9:7 say about that? What about Proverbs 9:12 and Proverbs 19:29?
3. Read Galatians 6:9. Dave also said that "Time and Consistency silences all critics." How does this work? Why is it so hard to go this route? How does this go against today's culture?

LIFE APPLICATION

We all face ridicule at some point. How do you, personally, react to it? Are you slow to anger, or quick to react? Dave gave us 3 action points to use: 1. Keep showing up. 2. Keep doing what is right. 3. Sit back and watch what God does. Make it a point to look at ridicule with this lens, instead of feeling the need to fight or shrink back. Stay consistent.

CHALLENGE

As groups are now starting back up, don't just see ridicule as something to be consistent with. Be consistent with your group. Make it a priority. Groups that meet sporadically or have absent members will always struggle. Make consistency a huge part of your group, and your group will reap the benefits.