

WHEN THE LOCUSTS ARRIVE

(Major Messages from Minor Prophets- Part 1)

October 1, 2023

The Message of Joel

God wants to _____ up

God wants to _____ you

God wants _____ of you

God wants to _____ you

God wants to _____ with you

Fill-ins: wake you; restore/renew; all; bless; partner

Works of the following consulted: J.D. Greear, Philip Griffin, Gordon MacDonald, Tim Mackie, Larry Osborne

Life Group Questions for the Week of October 1, 2023

1. Looking back at your notes from this Sunday's message, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

2. Much of the message of the minor prophets has to do with repentance. What does "repentance" mean in the Bible? Do you think most people in our culture think much about repentance? What is the difference between confessing and repenting?

3. We saw Sunday how God allowed an invasion of locusts to "wake up" his people. Has God ever sought to wake you up? How did he do that?

4. Romans 2:4 says that it is, "God's kindness" that "leads you towards repentance". How does God's grace and forgiveness encourage repentance?

5. Read what John says about repentance in Luke 3:8-14. How do you know if repentance is real? What is the result of genuine repentance?

6. As we saw on Sunday, for the Christian, repentance is more than just a single act; it's a lifestyle—a posture. We are able to take that posture because we are confident in the grace and forgiveness that God promises us. What can you do today to take up a posture of genuine repentance?

7. One of the chief roles of the prophets was to warn the nation of Israel about the consequences of their disobedience. Just like then, there continues to be consequences for our disobedience. Can you think of any consequences you or someone you know has experienced from sin?

8. Read Joel 2:28. Peter in Acts 2 says this began on the day of Pentecost, the day the church was born. The gift of the Holy Spirit was given to empower Jesus' church for mission. God wants to partner with you in his mission of seeking and saving the lost. How does this make you feel? What does this mean for you this coming week?