# Headlines

***Week 3: Immigration***

*Here are a list of passages with discussion questions with each. You might not have time for all of them, so feel free to read/discuss the ones that make the most sense for your group.*

Read Leviticus 25:23, 1 Peter 2:9-11.

Why do you think God refers to all of us as immigrants? Why might our founding  fathers have found it easier to see themselves in this light? In what ways can seeing yourself as an immigrant on God's land, a steward using someone else's property, shape your attitude toward all immigrants? What is the "holy nation" (verse 9) of which Peter said God's followers are truly citizens? Is America our everlasting homeland?

Read Exodus 22:21, 23:6-9.

Have there been hard, vulnerable times (financially, emotionally or physically) you have had to live through? How do your life experiences affect the ways you think about others who are facing hardships? Many of America's first settlers were people fleeing poverty, persecution or oppression. What value might it have for us to remember our origins as we decide how to deal with people from other nations who are fleeing poverty, persecution and death? Do you pray and hold out hope for creative ways to deal with the immigration challenges facing us?

Read Leviticus 19:33-34, Deuteronomy 10:14-19.

Do you see these words applying to you, or only to the Old Testament, Hebrew people? Do you think the Hebrew people really wanted to hear these words and to have to obey them? Are you willing to find it in your heart to find a way to obey these words, working for the good of immigrants? Does God love the immigrant, or not? Why or why not are you glad that the God of the scriptures doesn't play favorites?

Read Hebrews 11:13-16.

How much of a struggle is it for you to commit to living as a "stranger and immigrant" in this world? How much of a struggle do you have with your choices (including political ones) being ultimately driven by God's values? God isn't ashamed to be called your God. How high a value do you place on that if or when others denigrate you for the godly positions you take?