

BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

In preparation for Sunday, March 24, 2013

Passage: Romans 6:8-11

Memory Passage: Romans 6:14

DAY 1 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Read Rom. 6:5-11.** How does v. 5 serve as an outline for verses 6-10? What is the relationship between v. 5 & v. 11?

(b) Is Paul in doubt of the benefits received by those who have died with Christ since he uses the word “if” to begin v. 8? How do you know? In the context of vs. 8-11, why does Paul “believe” (v. 8) that those who have died with Christ will also live with Him?

(c) Notice the future tense of the verb, “we *will live* with him” in v. 8. In this context, when does this living take place?

(d) Do you “believe that (you) will also live with him?” Upon what basis do you believe this? What difference does this belief make in your daily life?

(e) *Family: Read Rom. 6:1-7.* After reading the text, spend time reviewing what your family has learned in these verses. Ask questions to gain an understanding of what they have learned and what they have retained. Questions can include, but are not limited to: “Why are we not to continue in sin? What does it mean to die to sin? To what does baptism refer in these verses? What does it mean to walk in newness of life? Who is the ‘old self?’ What does it mean to be enslaved to sin?”

DAY 2 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Read Rom. 6:5-14.** Notice the phrases in v. 8: “with Christ” and “with him.” Now read the following passages (**Rom. 8:17 & 32, 15:5, 2 Cor. 4:14 & 13:4, Gal. 2:20, Eph. 2:5, Phil 1:23, Col. 2:13, 14 & 20, 3:1-3**) and note the phrases, “with Christ,” “with him,” or “with Jesus Christ.” Answer the following questions: (1) What do you learn about your standing as one who is “in Christ?” (2) What do you learn about the work Christ has accomplished on your behalf? (3) What specific applications do the passages give you in light of these truths? (4) What further applications can you think of as you meditate on what Christ has done on your behalf and what standing you now have because you are “in Christ?” The answers to these questions will facilitate much discussion and encouragement in your class!

(b) *Family: Read Rom. 6:8* and point out the phrases, “with Christ” and “with him.” Review what you learned last week about being in union with Christ, and tell your family that this phrase is one of the ways that Paul frequently uses to show us what it means to be in union with Christ. As you read the following Scripture passages, discuss each one and teach about the believer’s union with Christ. You might use the questions from (a) above to help your family interact with these passages: **Gal. 2:20, Col. 2:13-14, 20, 3:1-3.**

DAY 3 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Read Rom. 6:8-11, Rev. 1:17-18.** Why does Paul assume that the Romans know the truth he teaches in v. 9 (“We know”)? Which facts presented in v. 9 do they already know?

(b) How is Christ’s death and resurrection different from Lazarus’ death and resurrection (John 11)? What difference does it make for you (and every believer) that Christ “will never die again?”

(c) Since “death no longer has dominion (rule, reign) over Christ,” are we to assume that death *once had* dominion over him? In light of what you have learned about the dominion of sin and death (Rom. 5:12-21), how did death once have dominion over Christ? Was death’s rule/dominion/reign over Christ different from that of its reign over the children of Adam? If so, how was it different? If not, how was Christ then not guilty of sin?

(d) Write down at least three applications of the wonderful truth that Christ died to sin.

(e) *Family:* Begin by reading **Rom. 6:9** and highlighting the fact that Christ was raised from the dead and will never die again. Then **Read Rev. 1:17-18** and teach them that Jesus, is alive and will be alive forever (because, of course, he will never die again). Explain that these 2 verses are the ending of a section of Scripture that describes the character of Christ as an encouragement to God’s people (the 7 churches) on earth. Then ask you family to draw pictures of the scene described as you **Read and teach Rev. 1:9-18.** (FYI: 7 lampstands = the 7 churches, and there is no lamp upon them because Jesus is the Light. Don’t miss the imagery representing God’s character, much of which comes from the OT, esp. Daniel 7: the full-length robe and golden sash remind us of the High Priest and shows that Jesus is the Great High Priest; white hair = perfect wisdom; eyes like a flame of fire = both penetrating vision [Christ sees everything all the time] and judgment [especially for those who have been found unrighteous as Christ’s eyes of flaming fire penetrate them]; feet like burnished bronze = Christ’s holiness [the metal has been purified in the fire]; voice like the roar of many waters = Christ’s power; right hand held the 7 stars = Christ’s authority [right hand] and possession of His church; sharp, two-edged sword = again, power & authority; face like the sun shining at full strength = Christ’s glory).

DAY 4 – ASK FOR INSIGHT**READ THE PASSAGE**

- (a) **Read Rom. 6:8-11.** Since v. 10 provides evidence for v. 9, you should have interacted with it when you answered some of the questions from Day 3, but let's dig a little deeper: What understanding does the "for" that begins v. 10 give us? When Paul says, "the death he died," is he intimating that there are different kinds of death? Why or why not?
- (b) How did Christ "die to sin?" Why is this fact important in the flow of Paul's argument in 6:2-14? Explain the importance of the fact that this death was "once for all."
- (c) What 2 aspects of Christ's work are being contrasted in v. 10? Explain the contrast. To what is Paul referring when he talks about the "life he lives (present tense)?" Explain how Jesus lives, today, more fully to God and His glory, than He could prior to His resurrection.
- (d) *Family:* **Read Rom. 6:10.** Ask, "Why is it important that Jesus died to sin, 'once for all?'" **Then read and explain why from Hebrews 10:1-18.** Point out that the priests were required to sacrifice over and over, but Christ came and offered Himself as a sacrifice only one time because His was the perfect sacrifice. Also point out the disadvantages of the Old Covenant (vs. 1, 3-4, 11) and the benefits of the New Covenant (vs. 9-10, 12, 14, 16-18).

DAY 5 – ASK FOR INSIGHT**READ THE PASSAGE**

- (a) **Read Rom. 6:8-11.** In verse 11 we come to the first imperative (command) in Romans. What is that command? What does the "so" tell us that begins v. 11 (i.e. how does it tie v. 11 to what has preceded)?
- (b) How are believers, those who are "in Christ Jesus," able to obey the command to "consider" themselves "dead to sin and alive to God?" What exactly does it mean to "consider" oneself in this way? How does this command help us understand the imperative in light of the preceding indicative (statement of being, or statement of reality/fact) statements?
- (c) Paul will apply this concept in the coming verses, but today I want you to focus on the command "consider yourself." Write down at least 5 ways that you (and the other believers in your class when you discuss this question) can "consider yourself dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus."
- (d) *Family:* Lead your family through (a) – (c) above.

DATE: March 24, 2013**PASSAGE: Romans 6:8-11***Alive to God*

In Romans 6:5-11 Paul instructs us on 2 aspects of union with Christ.