

## BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

In preparation for Sunday, August 5, 2012

Passage: Various

Memory Passage: 1 Peter 5:5b-7

### DAY 1 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

### READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read 1 Pet. 5:5b-7, Phil. 2:3-4, & Micah 6:8.** What is the definition of humility? What does Peter mean when he commands you to “clothe” yourself with humility toward one another (1 Pet. 5:5)? What reason does Peter give for doing this?
- (b) Explain why Phil. 2:3 contrasts humility with rivalry & conceit. Phil. 2:3 also presents a “one another” with slightly different wording: “Count others more significant than your selves.” Why is the attitude of humility required for this act? How must this command to count others more significant than you impact the way you relate to others?
- (c) How do the commands to walk humbly before God (Micah 6:8 & 1 Pet. 5:6) inform the way we are to walk humbly with others? What ways are you prone to walk in pride rather than humility with your brothers & sisters in Christ? Be thorough in your examination of yourself so you can, through the leading of the Holy Spirit, root out these bastions of pride. Maybe you struggle with judging others? With pride over your knowledge of the Scriptures? With pride over your interpretation of the Scriptures? Maybe you think you are the Holy Spirit in the sanctification of others and think they are being conformed to the image & likeness of Christ too slowly? Maybe you think your kids are better than, well, you know whose kids? Need I go on?
- (d) *Family:* Ask: “How did you make the decision of what to wear today? What factors influenced the way you clothed yourself?” After the discussion, summarize the factors they mention with a statement like: “So you clothed yourself the way you did in order to present yourself in a certain way to others.” If they mentioned things such as, “I dressed comfortable” or “I dressed nice because we were going to a certain event” then summarize those factors with a statement such as: “So you clothed yourself the way you did to be prepared for what was required of you today.” **Then Read 1 Pet. 5:5 and Micah 6:8.** Discuss what it means to “clothe” oneself in humility, and what is “required” of us by God. Also, discuss what it looks like to act with humility toward other believers and what benefits come to us when we live humbly with others.

### DAY 2 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

### READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read 2 Cor. 13:11 & Rom. 12:18.** The “one another” we will examine today is the command to “live in peace.” In 2 Cor. 13:11, with whom are you to “live in peace?” What does this require of you? Does this mean that you can never disagree with other believers? If not, why not, and how do you disagree while living in peace with them?
- (b) In Rom. 12:18, with whom are you to “live in peace?” What makes this command different from the 2 Cor. command? Does this verse allow for the possibility of living in peace? What caveat is given? Does this verse allow for you to ever be the catalyst for disrupting the peace?
- (c) What issues in church life tend to be catalysts for disrupting peace and why do they tend to function as challenges to peace? What attitudes must you have prior to any disturbance of peace in order to maintain and live in peace with others? What thoughts & attitudes tempt you to be a disrupter of peace in your relationships? How do these thoughts & attitudes usually play themselves out, and in what ways might you address them prior to the disturbance of peace?
- (d) *Family:* **Read Rom. 12:18.** Ask, “What is the definition of peace?” Write down their definitions on your white board. Then provide a situation that they might have already faced, or could face at any time, where it depended on them to pursue peace. This could be that someone gossiped about them, someone accused them of stealing something, someone did not like the way they acted or responded to a certain conversation, your family member said something unkind, a feud between your own family members, etc. Then say, “How would you seek to live in peace with this person and in this situation?” Write down their responses on your white board and codify them into principles for living in peace with others.

### DAY 3 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

### READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Rom. 12:10 & Phil. 2:3-4.** What does the verb “honor” mean? What does it mean to “show honor” to another person? What does this have to do with love & brotherly affection? Why does Paul urge us to compete with each other in showing honor (“outdo one another”)?
- (b) We visited Phil. 2:3-4 on Day 1, but these verses also help us with showing honor to others. What mindsets/actions are mentioned in these verses, and how would they help prepare you to enter the competition of showing honor to other believers? With which of these mindsets/actions do you struggle most? In what ways might you overcome these struggles?
- (c) Describe how a body of believers would look if they were minute-by-minute obeying this command? What unloving, arrogant, peace-destroying, self-centered destruction would be avoided? What benefits would there be?
- (d) *Family:* **Read Rom. 12:10.** Ask, “What does the phrase ‘show honor’ mean?” (to show respect, to show regard, to revere, to esteem, to confer distinction upon). Then discuss what it means to “outdo” one another in this, why it is important, and

ways that we can do it. Write down several specific ways that we can show honor to others, and make sure you include principles that are age appropriate for each of your family members.

**DAY 4 – ASK FOR INSIGHT**

**READ THE PASSAGE**

- (a) **Read Eph. 4:32.** Write definitions for the words “kind” and “tenderhearted.” What are the differences between these words? What are the similarities? How do these attitudes relate to and flow from the overarching command of love?
- (b) When is it most difficult to be kind to another person and why? When is another person most in need of your tenderheartedness? What types of actions and words come forth from you when you are being kind and tenderhearted?
- (c) Is it difficult for you to receive kindness from other people? Why? How can you be more gracious (kind? tenderhearted?) in the coming days when people are trying to be kind to you, even if they might be going about it in a way that is less than effective? What will be the result in the Bible Church when everyone is always kind and tenderhearted to others?
- (d) *Family:* **Read Eph. 4:32.** Lead your family through (a), (b), & (c) above.

**DAY 5 – ASK FOR INSIGHT**

**READ THE PASSAGE**

- (a) **Read Rom. 12:16, 2 Cor. 13:11, & Phil. 2:2.** Though there are several “one anothers” in these verses, write down the 6 phrases that Paul uses that describe our unity in the body. What does it mean to “live in harmony with one another?” What types of behavior would destroy harmony in the body? Are you prone to any of these behaviors? Are there behaviors to which you are prone that might destroy harmony that you did not write on the list? Why do you think you missed those the first time?
- (b) Since Paul says we must “agree with one another,” are we to *never* disagree? Why/why not? About what things might we disagree? What is Paul trying to get us to accomplish with this command, and how should you implement it?
- (c) Is Paul saying that there are different types of love when he tells us to “have the same love” for each other? Why or why not? If not, what is he saying? What is the “same” or “one” mind that we are to have with other believers?
- (d) What is the practical way in which this unity is acted out in the body of believers when there are disagreements, hurt feelings, differing viewpoints, differing visions, multiple plans, differing beliefs on non-essential doctrines, differing thoughts on how a Scripture should be applied, differing views on exercising any number of different freedoms? Be specific!
- (e) *Family:* Spend tonight either (1) leading your family through (a)-(d) above, or memorizing our memory passage using any of the several games or activities we have used to aid in memorizing Scripture.

**DATE: August 5, 2012**

**PASSAGE: Various**

***Living with One Another Part I***

As we conclude our study of the one anothers of Scripture we will examine eleven actions that must mark our relationship with each other.