

BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

In preparation for Sunday, July 19, 2009

Passage: 1Peter 1:13-25

Memory Passage: 1Peter 1:13

TODAY: *From your study this past week, what is one thing that impressed you that can be of help in your life?*

DAY 1 – PRAY FOR INSIGHT

READ THE WHOLE PASSAGE

(a) **Read 1Peter 1:13.** The phrase “preparing your minds for action” is really a translation for “binding up the loins of your mind.” What does it mean to bind/gird up your loins (Ex. 12:11; Luke 12:35-36; Eph. 6:14)? Read Job 38:3, 40:7 and Jeremiah 1:17. What is the context surrounding these passages? How does this affect our reading of this phrase?

(b) What do we normally use the word sober in reference to? What are other things we are to be sober from (Col. 3:2-3; 1 Jn. 2:15-17)? How is this same phrase used elsewhere in 1Peter 4:7 & 5:8?

(c) The phrase “set your hope” is the only command in this sentence, thus it is the most important phrase. How do the previous two phrases relate to this one? What happens when we fix our hope on things other than our future grace?

(d) *Think about it:* Why doesn't Peter tell us to fix our hope on our present state before God? Why doesn't Peter tell us to fix our hope on becoming more like Christ? Why is it so important for hope to be fixed on our future grace? Do you have things that are keeping you from being fixed on the hope of the resurrection?

(e) *Family:* Read 1Peter 1:13. Talk about what it means to prepare your minds for action. What are ways in which you can prepare your mind? What are things that distract you from following after the Lord? How does setting your hope on Christ's return help us to be sober? Pray for each other about some of those things that cause you not to be prepared or sober in awaiting the hope of the resurrection.

DAY 2 – PRAY FOR INSIGHT

READ THE WHOLE PASSAGE

(a) **Read 1Peter 1:14-16.** How does Peter describe the passions that we aren't to be conformed to? What would that entail for you? What kinds of passions are ok to have (Galatians 5:16-17)? How does Romans 6:12-14 parallel this passage?

(b) Why are we called to be holy? Why were the Israelites called to be Holy in Leviticus 18:1-4? How is Leviticus 19:1-4 related to this passage beyond the quotation?

(c) *Think about it:* Does our call to be holy mean that we shouldn't spend time with people who aren't Christians (Jeremiah 29:4-9)? How is our holiness to be displayed? Do you pursue holiness?

(d) *Family:* Read 1Peter 1:14-16. What are the passions that we are not to be conformed to? What are some of yours that you feel keep trying to shape you? What does it mean to be holy? How does Leviticus 18:1-4 describe holiness? Do you seek to live a holy life? Why or why not? How could your family be holier? Pray that the Lord would show you what you might need to do to live in holiness as a family.

DAY 3 – PRAY FOR INSIGHT

READ THE WHOLE PASSAGE

(a) **Read 1Peter 1:17-19.** Break down the if-then statement given in this passage. What are the condition and the result in this passage? Why will God judge everyone's deeds (2Cor 5:10)?

(b) What is the difference between “being holy in conduct”(v. 14) and “conducting ourselves with fear”(v. 17)? What reason does Peter give us for conducting ourselves with fear?

(c) *Think about it:* Why do people often motivate others with fear? How is what Peter is saying different than this? Are we motivated out of fear? Are you motivated to conduct yourself with fear? Why or why not?

(d) *Family:* Read 1Peter 1:17-19. Talk about what it means that God will bring every deed to judgment. How does 2Cor. 5:10 add to your understanding of this passage? Why are we to conduct ourselves in fear? Why is this different from the way the world motivates? How does this affect our relationship with God? Pray that you would have the right kind of fear, fear that is based out of God's gracious love and forgiveness.

DAY 4 – PRAY FOR INSIGHT

READ THE WHOLE PASSAGE

(a) **Read 1Peter 1:20-21.** What three things do we learn about Christ's ministry in this passage? What two things do we learn about the Father's role in Christ's life?

(b) Why does our faith in Christ mean we have faith in the Father? What is the connection of this passage to the previous passage? Where have faith/belief and hope been mentioned already in the previous few days? How are these statements all related?

(c) *Think about it:* What do we learn about the Trinity in this passage today? What is the relationship between the Father and the Son?

(d) *Family:* Read 1Peter 1:20-21. What roles do the Father and the Son play in our salvation according to this passage? What is our role? When was it known that Jesus would come and die for us? What does this imply about God's understanding of what would happen on earth? Does this encourage you or frighten you? Pray that God's sovereign grace and will to send Christ to save us would cause you to worship Him more.

DAY 5 – PRAY FOR INSIGHT

READ THE WHOLE PASSAGE

(a) **Read 1Peter 1:22-25.** What does Peter mean by “have purified yourselves by obeying the truth”? What is the purpose of our purification of our souls? What is the command that is given in this passage?

(b) What is the nature of our new birth (John 3:5-7)? How is our new life imperishable? What is the word of God compared to? Read Isaiah 40:3-9. How does reading the whole passage bring light to this passage? What is the word of the Lord?

(c) *Think about it:* Do you see as one of the purposes of your salvation to live in brotherly love with one another? Why or why not? How can we be encouraged to love from a pure heart because of our new birth?

(d) *Family:* Read 1Peter 1:22-25. What was our act of obeying the truth? Talk about our purification. What were we purified from? What comparison is made in the passage? What two things are being talked about? What does the word of truth entail? What role does love play in our salvation? Is there anybody that you need to practice this on? Pray that the Lord would give you a heart to love others with a pure and undefiled heart.

DAY 6 – PRAY FOR INSIGHT

READ THE WHOLE PASSAGE

(a) *Think back through what you have learned each day this week.* Did anything really stick out for you this week? What? Why do you think the Lord pointed this out above other things? Do you need to begin practicing one of these imperatives more than another? Which one and why? Pray for the Lord's strength to see that you set your hope properly, pursue holiness, and love.

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The Joy of God's Calling

“hope...be holy...conduct yourselves with fear...love”