

# Small Group Homework – Leader’s Guide

For the Week of October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2015  
(Questions and Scripture for Small Group Time)

## DIRECTIONS FOR THIS MEETING

- a. Prepare for group time – remind everyone of your meeting time, set up enough chairs beforehand, welcome members as they arrive, snacks and drinks (optional) are ready beforehand.
- b. Focus of this study: Galatians 2:11-14. This week’s message and scripture is a case study in conflict between Christians. Paul points out that he stood opposed to Peter to his face on issue concerning the truth of the gospel. We’ve talked over the last few weeks about what the gospel is, now we turn our attention to how we defend the truth of it.
- c. Take attendance for your group meeting on [secure.accessacs.com](http://secure.accessacs.com). If you have any issues getting logged in, contact Andrea Saffle at [asaffle@riverlawn.org](mailto:asaffle@riverlawn.org)

## Priming the Pump

1. *The one thing I took from this weekend’s message was...*

## About Me...

2. Which of the following describes how you handle conflict:
  - a. Avoidance – *sweep it all under the rug*
  - b. Giving In – *cooperative but struggle with courage*
  - c. Stand your ground – *lots of courage but little cooperation*
  - d. Compromise – *focus on the larger points letting the smaller things go*
  - e. Collaborate – *work towards understanding the way the other person thinks*
  - f. Other:

Why do you handle conflict this way? **\*Answers could vary from how people were raised or who they’ve learned conflict resolution from. This question is less about doing it right or wrong, and more about understanding each person better.**

## Into the Bible

3. Read Galatians 2:11-14. What was Paul’s disagreement with Peter all about? **\*Peter was saying one thing and doing another. He was preaching the gospel is for all but then only eating with Jewish Christians. Paul saw his hypocrisy and called it out. A good follow up question could be: Are there people in your church you have not been “eating with” because they are not “like you”? What self-righteousness lies beneath this attitude?**

What do you think it means that Peter “stood condemned”? **\*Paul isn’t as much focused on sinful behavior as much as he is focused on sinful attitude. Change happens by the renewal of our minds (Romans 12).**

4. When Paul saw the conduct of Peter and other Jewish leaders not lining up with the truth of the gospel, he stepped in. How can we make sure we are defending the truth of the gospel today? **\*This question is about the boundaries of the gospel. A good start for good boundaries is focusing on the essentials of the gospel message. A good question: What are the essentials for believing the gospel?**
5. Read Matthew 8:31-38. Describe a time when you were “called out” about not living in the truth. How did you handle it? What did you learn from it? **\*How we accept or respond to being called out reveals a lot about what we believe about the gospel. A humble attitude is fruit of the gospel but**

**pride is fruit of the flesh. A healthy Christian life means we'll be on both sides of being called out by others and having to call out others, at some point.**

Describe a time when you "called out" someone not living according to the truth. What did you learn from it?

6. Tim Keller says, "Christian living is a constant realignment process." Do you agree? Why or why not? **\*Walking with Jesus means our hearts and minds are being reshaped by Him constantly. We'll constantly experience more of Christ which will naturally change how we see people. Naturally, we should be going from angry to peaceful, impatient to patient, joy-less to joy-filled.**

### **Sermon Application**

7. Who has permission in your life to hold you accountable to Christian living? In what ways do they hold you accountable? **\*Accountability must be intentional for it to be effective. If others in your group do not have it, discuss ways to set it up and who to set it up with. It would be a great goal for your group if everyone knew who they were accountable to and the parameters of that accountability.**

Who do you hold accountable?

What things should you hold church leadership accountable to?

8. Memory Verse: 1 Thessalonians 5:11. "Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing."

### **Prayer Requests**

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### **Ministry Opportunities**

#### **Autumn Bash**

October 24, 4:00-8:00 P.M. at Riverlawn. Volunteer for a time slot: 4:00-6:00 P.M. or 6:00-8:00 P.M.

Sign-up at: The Wall outside the Auditorium or online at <http://goo.gl/forms/Uzv9KGtJH0>. More questions:

Contact Renee at [rschneider@riverlawn.org](mailto:rschneider@riverlawn.org).

#### **Coffee Bar Volunteer**

Volunteers needed at 11:30 AM for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday each month. Serve Coffee during our third service, and help keep the coffee bar stocked for all our guests. Contact Sharon Page at [spage@riverlawn.org](mailto:spage@riverlawn.org) if interested.