

Small Group Homework – November 8, 2015 (Leader's Guide)

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 3:15-28. Paul is explaining to the Jewish Christians that the promise (God gave to Abraham) came before the law (God gave to Moses 645 years later). This is important because God wrote, gave and kept the promise through Christ, who came through the Abrahamic line. Application: God keeps his promises even when His law is broken. Do we keep our promises like God keeps His?
- c. **This the last week of session one. Be sure to communicate your break plans with your group including whether you'll continue meeting, if you will be doing a service project together or even if you are planning a Christmas party. Session two begins the week of January 3rd.**
- d. Take attendance for your group meeting on secure.accessacs.com. If you have any issues getting logged in, contact Andrea Saffle at asaffle@riverlawn.org.

Getting to Know Me...

1. What is one gift you will never forget?

2. What was the biggest thing you took away from this weekend either at the service or at the Freedom Celebration?

Into the Bible

3. The Christians in Galatians were still focusing their efforts on the law. Paul reminded them about the promise God gave to Abraham and his offspring in an attempt to refocus them on faith. How do the following passages reveal God's view of self-righteousness? ***This question is simply meant to reveal God's attitude toward self-righteousness and approval by keeping the law. Though we know this in our heads it can be difficult to apply. Our focus on our righteousness is a good thing but when we compare ourselves to others we become self-righteous.**

Matthew 23:1-36

Luke 18:9-14

Romans 3:21-31

Why do you think Jesus used such harsh words towards the Jewish religious leaders?

Have you ever had an experience with someone who was self-righteous? If you feel comfortable, share that experience. ***A good follow up here, admittedly one that would be difficult to ask, is: Have you ever been the person who was self-righteous? Before asking this, you might share a personal story if that's ever been you.**

4. When you read that God kept His promise to Abraham and his offspring through Christ you might begin wondering what other promises God has made with His people. Check out

these promises in scripture: ***This question is meant to encourage your group about the promises God has made. Sometimes we forget that God's promises continue on for us, we need to take heart that God is still faithful to them.**

2 Peter 1:3-4 P F	Romans 8:37-39 P F	Jeremiah 29:11 P	Proverbs 1:33 C
Matthew 11:28-29 P F	John 14:27 P F	Isaiah 40:29-31 C	Romans 10:9 C
Philippians 4:19 F		Romans 6:23 P F	

Which of these promises are conditional (hint: look for the word "if")? *(Put a C by conditional promises)*

What promises were fulfilled in the past and which are yet to be fulfilled? *(Put a P by fulfilled promises and an F by future promises)*

Which of the promises above encourage you the most today? Why?

Sermon Application

5. It's pretty easy to revel in God's promises because we have confidence they will be fulfilled. But when it comes to the promises we make, that's a whole different story. How well do you keep the promises you make and how does that influence others for Christ?

6. Memorize Philippians 4:7 – "And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

Prayer Requests

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Ministry Opportunities

Coffee Bar Volunteer

Contact Sharon Page at spage@riverlawn.org or 838-9388.

Serve coffee, tea, lemonade, water, and cookies to those heading into Sunday morning worship.

Three or four people are needed during two different time frames. It's easy and training is provided!