

## Small Group Study Winter Semester Week Nine:

*Remember, these questions are just tools for discussion. You don't need to 'get through them all'. Use the questions that are helpful, skip the questions that are not. And let the conversation flow naturally.*

### Optional Ice Breaker(s)

- a) What is one thing that people complain about, that drives you crazy?
- b) How nervous are you about the Coronavirus? Have you been impacted yet, in any way (stocking up on items, cancelled trips, etc.)?

### Passage and Discussion

#### **Read Philippians 2:12-18**

- a) What stands out to you upon first reading of this passage?
- b) There is a significant difference between “working *for* your salvation” and “working *out* your salvation.” Why is this an important distinction to make?
- c) This week, we discussed the 3 phases or aspects of salvation – Justification, Sanctification and Glorification. Have you ever thought through these concepts before? Is this confusing, or a helpful distinction? Why?
- d) One of the great mysteries of scripture is how the Christian participates in their own salvation. Thinking about the 3 phases of salvation, what role do *you* have to play in the process of salvation? Do you have a role to play at all?
- e) **Read Psalm 51.** Discuss David’s attitude towards being sanctified. How does David seek to participate in His sanctification? What does he ask of God?
- f) How does grumbling and complaining, by Christians, damage the witness of the church? Would you say you contribute to this?
- g) In what ways, if at all, would you say that you stand out as a star in the darkness, in comparison to those around you who do not know Jesus?
- h) It was stated this week that rejoicing may be the antidote to complaining. How does rejoicing help change our perspective, and give us a healthier outlook?
- i) Paul starts this passage with a “Therefore.” **Read Phil 2:6-11.** Name all the ways in which this text inspires the passage we read this week? What is the ‘therefore’ there for?
- j) How do the challenges from Paul to ‘WORK OUT’, to ‘SHINE’ and to ‘REJOICE’, work together, or perpetuate one another? How does missing one of these negatively impact the call to participate in the others?
- k) Was there anything else in the message on Sunday that stood out to you as impactful or challenging?

### **Take it Home (Optional Ideas for Response this Week)**

- a) Make a list of your common complaints – the things that seem to repeat themselves. Now, for each item, thank the Lord for something to do with that thing. Turn your frustrations into rejoicing this week.
- b) Ask God how he is inviting you to participate in your own sanctification this week (time with him, time in the word, serving others, etc.). And make a plan to actually do it.

### **Optional Ideas for Prayer Time**

- a) Pray for the sanctification of the members of your group. Pray for one group member at a time – that God would work to transform them into the likeness of Christ.
- b) Pray for the communities impacted by the Coronavirus. Pray that the church in those areas would have the courage and opportunity to be the hands and feet of Jesus to those who are sick.

### **Announcements / Service Opportunities**

#### **a) Men's Retreat**

**Friday, March 13 to Sunday, March 15** at Camp Manitou (Headingley). Men of all ages - join us as we spend the weekend together, playing games, skating, eating (lots of) food, enjoying the great outdoors, and digging into God's Word together, as guest speaker, CMU Professor Pierre Gilbert challenges us to 'Choose the Good' in our lives. Cost: \$135. Contact Dom Gibson (dgibson@grantmemorial.mb.ca) for more information, or register online at [www.grantmemorial.ca](http://www.grantmemorial.ca).

#### **b) REMINDER – Small Group Semester Break**

Next Week is the last week of the Winter Small Group Semester. Let your group know if you plan to meet, or take the break off. Consider discussing a social outing or service project over the break. The questions for the Spring Semester will begin again on Sunday, April 19.