

Small Group Discussion Questions - Spring Semester // Week Eight

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)

Passage and Discussion

- a) Do you have a favourite Disney Movie? What do you enjoy about it?
- b) When you were a child, who was the best babysitter you ever had? Who was the worst?

Read Galatians 3:15-25

- a) What stands out to you upon first reading of this passage? What is a theme, verse, or word that you find encouraging? What do you find challenging in this passage?
- b) If you had 10 seconds to share 'who you are' with someone, what would you say?
- c) If you are honest, who or what do you let define your identity?
- d) Theologian J.I. Packer writes: "What is a Christian? The richest answer I know is that a Christian is one who has God as Father." How does this definition resonate with you?
- e) We often assume that because all are created by God, that we are all God's children. But as we discussed on Sunday, that idea is not Biblical. Why do you think this is an important distinction to make - that God is a universal Creator, a universal King, but not a universal Father?
- f) We are tempted to define ourselves by many things other than Christ. What is something that you are tempted to 'clothe yourself with', rather than clothing yourself with Christ?
- g) How does looking at yourself as 'clothed by Christ', change the way we see ourselves and what our purpose is?
- h) How do you feel when you think of yourself as a part of a family consisting of brothers and sisters from every tribe, tongue and nation? Does this image change the way you view the church?
- i) Paul says that we are no longer slaves, but are free. When you look at your life, would you say you better resemble a free person or a slave? Would you say you are living in freedom?
- j) What is the difference between being justified and being adopted?

- k) Chapter **4v3** says "We were enslaved by the elementary principles of this world". How are the elementary principles of this world represented in today's society? What are we in danger of being re-enslaved by?

Read Galatians 4:8-20

- l) Looking at the example of the Galatians in this section, what are we in danger of if we forget our identity in Christ (there are a few examples in this text)?
- m) In **v9** Paul affirms that now "we are known by God". What does it mean and how this affects the way we express our spirituality?
- n) 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) Spend time this week reflecting on the identity statements that Paul mentions. Tell yourself that this is who you are.
- b) Adoption is close to God's heart. Pray for those you know (or don't know) who are involved in adoption and foster care. Think through how you could bless someone involved in adoption or foster care this week - and do it.

Optional Ideas for Prayer Time

- a) Pray for our brothers and sisters around the world - from every tongue and tribe and nation.
- b) As a group, pray for the upcoming Annual General Meeting (and Town Hall Meetings) - pray that our church would be unified and that God's will would be done at Grant Memorial.