Group Questions – Joshua 21:43-22:34 – Hold Fast

Share a time in your life when you "drifted" from the Lord.

What were the causes surrounding your "drifting"?

<u>**Read**</u> – Joshua 21:43-45

Would you call this a time of BLESSING or CURSING for the Israelites?

<u>**Read**</u> – Joshua 22:1-9

What is the warning Joshua gives in verse 5?

In such a time of blessing, why might Joshua see fit to WARN the Israelites?

Read - Proverbs 30:7-9

What are the 2 concerns the author of this proverb shares with the Lord?

Why might we DENY the Lord when we are being BLESSED BY the Lord?

Read - Joshua 22:5 again

What does it mean to "HOLD FAST" to the Lord?

Can you share a time when you DRIFTED while floating in the water?

How do people prevent themselves from DRIFTING while on the water?

<u>Read</u> – Hebrews 6:18-19 – "Therefore, we who have fled to [God] for refuge can have great confidence as we hold to the hope that lies before us. This hope is a strong and trustworthy anchor for our souls. It leads us through the curtain into God's inner sanctuary."

How can applying these verses help us not to DRIFT?

What are some current situations that could cause us to DRIFT from this hope?

Does the term, "HOLD FAST" sound PASSIVE or ACTIVE?

Do we... NATURALLY... "HOLD FAST" or does it take work on our part?

<u>Read</u> – Hebrews 2:1 – "Therefore we must give the more earnest heed to the things we have heard, lest we drift away."

"give the more earnest heed" = not just hear, but put into action

How can we "GIVE THE MORE EARNEST HEED" to the following teachings of God?

<u>**Proverbs 19:11</u>** - Sensible people control their temper; they earn respect by overlooking wrongs.</u>

James 1:19 - Understand this, my dear brothers and sisters: You must all be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to get angry.

Matthew 5:44 - But I say, love your enemies! Pray for those who persecute you!

<u>Matthew 6:31-33</u> - "Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you."

In these last verses, what is the ORDER we are to give to things?

What does SEEKING GOD FIRST look like, practically, in our lives?

What is the promise God gives us, IF we seek Him first?

Close in prayer asking God to help us HOLD FAST and SEEK HIM FIRST.