A. SERMON SCRIPTURE

Title: Necessary New Birth

1 John 5:18-21 (ESV)

We know that everyone who has been born of God does not keep on sinning, but he who was born of God protects him, and the evil one does not touch him. We know that we are from God, and the whole world lies in the power of the evil one. And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know him who is true; and we are in him who is true, in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life.

Little children, keep yourselves from idols.

B. GROUP DISCUSSION

- 1. Please read I John 5:18-21 and discuss the following conversation starters:
- 2. What has been your previous view of being "born again"? Was it intended to be a separate spiritual experience for a believer? A feeling? A different "class" of Christians? Talk about that phrase and the possible misunderstandings.
- 3. What does it mean that we will "not keep on sinning" if we are born again?
- 4. Explain how the world is under the control of the Evil One? Does Satan have any authority that has not been given to him?
- 5. How does Jesus Christ (life, burial and resurrection) help us to experience and understand God more fully?
- 6. What is the interplay between our own diligent obedience and "going after" sin, and Jesus Christ protecting us from the Evil One?
- 7. Prayer and praise