

Sermon Questions for Life Groups

Communion: John 10:7-18

Pastor Dave Roberts

Sunday, January 7, 2018

*These questions are generated by several authors for Life Group discussions
or family or personal devotions*

1. What are your personal/spiritual goals for 2018? How will you be held accountable for these goals?

2. Pastor Lee began the reading of God's Word with a look at I Corinthians 1:18-25, where we reflected on Christ crucified which counters the wisdom of the world. After reading this passage again, please discuss what challenges you may have experienced as a Christian living in the secular world today and how this passage may actually encourage you to be bolder in sharing your faith during 2018?

3. Going to the passage John 10:1-18; Pastor Dave gave us an outline to:
 - a. Remember - What do you remember in terms of giving thanks to God for His Favour towards you?
 - b. Reflect - Pastor Dave quoted Socrates: "The unconsidered life is not worth living." What does this statement mean to you as you meditate on your life up to this point in time?
 - c. Refocus - After remembering and reflecting, has the Holy Spirit led you in any specific areas where you need to refocus?

4. Jesus uses a Palestinian sheep-farming metaphor in this passage. The most important background for this metaphor is Ezekial 34, where God berates Israel's false shepherds for fleecing God's sheep rather than guarding, guiding and nurturing them. What are God's promises to His people spelled out in Ezek. 34:11-16?

5. Pastor Dave defined the two primary tasks of the shepherd as protection and provision. How has the shepherd fulfilled these roles in your journey in the past year?

6. Read John 10:11-15 and share how this may shape your appreciation/gratitude for Christ our Good Shepherd?

7. Reflect on John 10:10b and share what you think living a 'full' life means or what it may NOT mean?

8. Reflect on Philippians 4:11: What does Paul mean when he says he is content? How does this differ with the concept of contentment or complacency that Pastor Dave spoke about? How do you describe your current spiritual state?

9. One characteristic of sheep is that they desire 'safety'. Pastor Dave explored this a bit and suggested that believers may become stuck in a comfort zone, or stagnant in terms of exercising faith and trusting God. Are there any areas in your life where you wish to venture out and trust God by faith in 2018?

10. How would you rate your spiritual life today: 1) fat 2) contented 3) safe or 4) flourishing? Are you doing anything to change that in 2018?

Church-Wide Prayer Requests

- Pray that the Shepherd will lead His sheep and that they will follow His lead:
 - Those who already attend WH, but do not respond to His leading in their lives
 - Those who He will call this year and walk through the doors of WH – that they will be embraced, responsive and disciplined toward maturity.

- Pray that each person who attends will desire and experience spiritual depth and growth in 2018.