

Sermon Questions for Life Groups

The Heart and Goal of Gospel Ministry

Galatians 4:8-20

Pastor John Mahaffey

Sunday, March 25, 2018

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

1. The Haiti team report gave us an insight into their evangelism experience – what stood out to you from their report? The team was confronted with voodoo practices. Consider God’s work through His people, in confronting these demonic practices. What role do we play?
2. How effective are arguments vs. wooing and loving the seeker until Christ is formed in them (vs. 19)?
3. Discuss strategies for growing in your Christian faith that you might employ to avoid the risk of being like the Galatians and being tempted to return to old ways of living.
4. Could you encourage others to "become like me" as Paul encouraged the Galatians (vs. 12a)? What attributes are necessary in your life to do so? Consider Galatians 5:22-23. On which of these are you weakest? Be reminded of I Cor. 11:1.
5. How do you "become as they are" (identify with others) without sinning (vs. 12b)? What are the lines that should not be crossed?
6. Referring to verses 13-16 under the theme that Gospel Ministry involves suffering, look also at Philippians 1: 7-8. In what situations might you feel hesitant or fearful to share the gospel?
7. Paul attempted to reason, challenge and plead with the Galatian believers to see the reasons for his loving rebuke of them. Read Proverbs 5:1-2; 6:23 and 9:7-12. How do these proverbs describe those who listen to rebuke and correction from wise teachers? What is the reward for listening to wise teaching or a wise correction?

8. Have you lost friends because of your stand - telling the truth - for the Gospel (vs. 16)? How does experiencing the sadness of seeing a fellow believer reject wise teaching or a correction show us the heart of God towards our own sinful nature?

9. Read Proverbs 10:17; 12:1; 15:32. Why do you think people despise wise teaching and correction?

10. In order to 'break the ice' when sharing our faith, what kind of introductory questions might you use? (different questions for different situations, but share any ideas) Can you think of questions that Jesus had used?

Prayer Items:

1. Pray for the cast and crew of *The Lion, the Witch, and The Wardrobe*, that they might keep healthy this week as they prepare for the final two nights of this awesome production.

2. We had a full house for the last 2 presentations. Pray that God would bring many to the next two performances, with hearts prepared to hear and experience the clear Gospel message.

3. Pray for the 20 or so Chinese who are attending a new Mandarin Alpha course on Thursday evening. Pray also for the 15 who are wrapping up our regular Alpha program in the next few weeks – that many would give their hearts to the Lord.