

Sermon Questions for Life Groups

Baptisms! (2 Cor. 5:17-21)

Pastor John Mahaffey

Sunday, May 13, 2018

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

1. It was a wonderful morning of baptisms and testimonies; was there a particular testimony that stuck in your mind – and why?
2. Think back to when you were baptized. What stands out for you in this event and the time immediately following it?
3. We heard from several of the candidates that they had deferred for some time the decision to move forward with baptism. What are some of the obstacles that people face in making this decision? Who/what is the key influence on this action?
4. Read II Cor 5:17-21 and consider the ways that a person's life changes when they are a new creation in Christ. What does “the old is gone, the new is here” mean when much of our ‘old’ selves seems to still hang around!
5. From II Corinthians 5:18, what does this verse teach us about our renewed selves? What is involved in having the ministry of reconciliation with others?
6. Read Ephesians 6:10-18 and discuss the following:
 - a. We read here about our struggle against the enemy. Who is the enemy in this verse?
 - b. Pastor John said that the indication of a changed life is that although we still fall, we struggle against that enemy. How is this different than what we did before we were saved?
 - c. Pastor John said that without Christ, there could be no change. How do the verses in this passage support this statement?

Church-Wide Prayer Requests

1. Pray for the 2 planning to be baptized this Thursday – God’s protection, preparation in their hearts and ours, calm for their nerves. But also that God would use their testimonies and the baptism service to touch the hearts of those who are attending Alpha and have been learning about Jesus!

2. Pray for the 8 planning to be baptized on Sunday - God's protection, preparation in their hearts and ours, calm for their nerves!

3. Pray for the Roberts family as they give honour to their mother and lay her body to rest. Rejoice in our hope of eternity with God!