

*Sermon Questions for Life Groups*

***Only One Gospel***

***Walking in the Truth of the Gospel***

***Galatians 2:15-16***

***Pastor John Mahaffey***

**Sunday, November 12, 2017**

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

1. Pastor Lee at the beginning asked people to shout out the date of their conversion. Share within the group your date of salvation and give a brief testimony as to what led you to make that decision. Were you clear as to what ‘gospel’ you were responding to?
2. We joined our voices with the worldwide Church, in praying for our brothers and sisters throughout the world who are being persecuted for their faith. What were your feelings as you joined with those who led us in prayer (in their native languages)?
3. Pastor John warned against the tendency for church goers to enter into a state of “presumptuousness” rather than true “righteousness” in Christ alone. The Apostle Paul speaks to this topic very specifically in Galatians 2: 15 – 16. As an additional reference, read also Luke 18: 10-14. Why was the publican sinner “justified” and not the Pharisee? What are examples of “presumptuousness” that you may have embraced or seen?
4. It was mentioned that we will be judged and our personal sins will be noted, but Pastor John mentioned that there are also sins of “omission” where we may not have actively committed a sinful act, but failed to act in a manner Christ expected His people to act. Within the background of Revelations 20:12, Matthew 12:36 and II Corinthians 5:10, what examples of “omission sins” can you think of? And again, what is our only hope of forgiveness for our sins?
5. What does it mean to “be justified”? In what way is being justified part of our salvation?
6. Paul says there are two possible roots to justification - “by works of the law” or “through faith in Jesus Christ” (vs.15&16). What does he mean by “works of the law”?

7. Can you identify Paul's arguments in verses 16 and 21 which show that justification by works of the law, though a theoretical option, is not sufficient for the people of God?
8. Is it possible for evangelicals to drift back into at least some facets of salvation by works? What are the triggers that lead us to do so?
9. How can we be involved in good Christian works and still convey the proper message of salvation?
10. What are the dangers of resting solely on your spiritual heritage?
11. In verse 17 Paul says that we are "justified in Christ" – that is in union with Christ. How does our being in Christ ensure that our justification is not legal fiction but reality?
12. How would you illustrate the act of trusting completely on Christ?
13. How would you explain the difference between being moral and being a Christian to someone who thinks being good makes them acceptable to God?