

Life Group Discussion Guide

Groups should care, learn and pray together, using these questions as a guide to respond to God.

Questions

1. When you meet someone for the first time, what is something you usually tell them about yourself? Why do you choose that particular detail? How does that compare to the way Paul introduces himself in Romans 1:1?
2. Go over the questions on page IV together as a group (Honestly, if this is all you cover, that is great because it means people are sharing out of their preparation and meditation!).
3. Paul describes himself as "a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, and set apart for the gospel." Which of those descriptions stands out most to you, and why? What do they reveal about how Paul viewed himself?
4. The sermon suggested that if we do not belong to Christ, we often become servants of other things such as approval, success, comfort, control, or fear. Which of those "masters" do people in our culture most commonly serve? Which one do you find most tempting in your own life?
5. What is the gospel? If someone asked you to clearly explain it, do you think you could?
6. In verses 6-7, Paul describes Christians as called, belonging to Jesus, holy people (saints), and recipients of grace and peace. Which of these gospel-given identities is most encouraging to you right now? Why?
7. Paul says the gospel calls us to "the obedience that comes from faith" (v. 5). What is the difference between obeying God in order to earn His acceptance and obeying because you already belong to Him? What might "the obedience of faith" look like for you this week?
8. The sermon ended with the question: "Is the gospel defining us?" In what area of your life right now do you most need to let the gospel shape your identity, thinking, or actions?

