grace
evangelical free church

Grace Group Discussion Questions

Title: Stay the Course
Theme: Blessing of Abiding in Our Heavenly Father
Text: 1 John 2:25-29
Speaker: Dave Talley
Date: Sunday, March 8, 2009

Grace Group Questions for this Sunday's Sermon:

1) Honestly discuss your habits in reading the word of God and meditating on its truths. Pray for more hunger. Encourage one another to feed your souls. Read Romans 12:1-2 and ask for God to work in our midst a "renewing of our minds."

2) The role of the Holy Spirit can be "buried" in the evangelical world, but we must focus attention on his work. In our passage how is the role of the Holy Spirit, which seems so subjective, grounded in the objective? What provides the parameters for the way the Holy Spirit might be leading?

3) We can easily make the spiritual life one of two extremes. On the one end, the objective word of God (the more intellectual) and on the other the subjective work of the Holy Spirit (the more experiential). The evangelical world can even be divided on where the emphasis is put on this continuum. Describe the strengths and weaknesses of each extreme. Are you more comfortable with one or the other in your life?

4) At Grace, as a whole, we are probably more comfortable with the emphasis on the objective word of God than on the subjective moving of the Holy Spirit. Sometimes this can be the result of fear. Discuss any fears of the "subjective" work of the Holy Spirit in one's life. How can we cultivate an experiential relationship in the power of the Holy Spirit that is clearly grounded in the objective teachings of God's word. Let's pray for powerful anointing and moving of the Holy Spirit in our midst.

5) In light of eternity, which best describes you:
    a. I rarely think of eternal matters. I like life in this world too much to allow my mind to wander to eternity.
    b. Eternal matters are okay to think about, but they do not have too much to do with my present life.
    c. When I think of eternity, I experience fear and unrest.
    d. I regularly think about eternity and it motivates me to increase my service to the Lord as I think about his evaluation of my service.
    e. I cannot wait for eternity to come because I am weary of the painful existence this side of heaven. I am encouraged and comforted by the thought of his appearance.
    f. I live in light of eternity and long for its fruition in my life so that I can be with Jesus. As I

wait, I willingly and joyfully steward my life to live for my Savior.

Discuss the above possibilities. What does the Bible teach about the perspective we should have on eternity?

6) Actually all three, the word, the Holy Spirit, and Eternity, are to be kept in proper perspective in our lives. How do we especially keep the more objective (word of God) and subjective (the role of the Holy Spirit) in proper perspective?