

Leaders: **See you Saturday** at 8:30am at Valley Springs for training! Be sure to read Pastor Chris' blog on the Harvest website about the Good Friday event. If you happen to not be able to do the event due to being out of town, consider asking someone in your group to lead it. A "how to video" will be coming out within 2 weeks, and all materials will be handed out at the training or on Sunday the 11<sup>th</sup> or 18<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*Remember: Certain hot-button issues like election can overtake a discussion. Commit to avoiding speculative conversation and stay rooted in the Word.

### **LEARN**

What stood out to you from the sermon on Sunday?

The Bible speaks of election in terms of praise for God, comfort for us, and confidence in evangelism. Why is it important for Christians to think of it in these same ways?

(Passages to consider reading: Ephesians 1:3-14, 2 Timothy 1:8-10, John 6:28-29, 35-37, 44-47. Important not to over-philosophize but stay biblical. Realize we can't understand it all but what is clear in Scripture is what to cling to and rejoice in)

Read 2 Corinthians 4:1-7. How does this passage help you understand:

- What is happening to those who don't believe? (v. 3-4)
- How we ought to witness about Jesus? (v. 2, 5)
- What happens when someone gets saved? (v. 6)

Read Romans 3:21-25 and 8:1. What happens when God justifies a sinner? How does it get accomplished? (Instantaneous and eternal change in status before God. Sins forgiven, receiving a legal transfer of someone else's righteousness. No condemnation now and no fear of condemnation ever again)

### **PRACTICE**

Read Acts 16:14-15 and 13:48, then Ephesians 2:1-5. What difference does the truth that *God made you alive with Christ* make in your worship and love for God?

(It should enhance our worship to know that we didn't earn it and God opened the eyes of our heart. It deepens and magnifies love for God to consider he loved us while we were dead in our sin)

Read 1 John 3:1-2. What tangible, ongoing difference does God's adoption of you make in your life? Discuss as a group ways it can and should make a difference in things like prayer, suffering, eternal perspective, forgiveness. (Prayer – full access as child of King; suffering – never w/o purpose; eternity – we're his forever; forgiveness – we still sin but can run to him as children, not from him as enemies any longer)

Read Philippians 1:6 and 2:12-13. God will complete the work of salvation in a Christian, yet we are called to work out our salvation precisely because God is working in us. How should these verses help you think about growing as a Christian?

(It takes grace-driven effort. This should deepen our prayer lives to both be worshipful and thankful for his work, and asking for his help in participating/working toward Christ-likeness)

### **CHANGE**

What do you need to remember more: that God saved you of no work of your own, or that you need to be actively working out your salvation with God's help and power? Spend time praying for one another, that God deepens both biblical convictions in your heart.