

Sermon Based Discussion Questions

Holy Spirit Power

Romans 8:1-17

March 19, 2017

1. Remember the story of Jeremy's brother and the model car on a string? Did you have any favorite toys growing up that caught your imagination or creativity?
2. Jeremy wrote on the black board how we can self-condemn or feel insecure.
 - In what ways do we each, in this group, feel insecure?
 - Is it too much positive mental attitude so say we shouldn't condemn ourselves? Explain.
 - The reason we don't self-condemn is found in Romans 8:3. What application can we draw from Galatians 3:10-13 (especially explain how we live out v.11)?
3. How do you make sure your mind is kept on the Spirit and not on the flesh (Romans 8:5-8)?
4. Remember Romans 8:11 and the explanation of the word "dwells" which shows up 2 times in the verse (hint: the prepositional prefix "en" which modified the intensity of the verb)?
 - How do you make sure that the Spirit of God gets to have the run of your life (or do you)?
 - Agree or disagree — "Everybody struggles to let the Spirit of God have the run of their whole life." What are at least five things that stop us from letting this happen?
5. Of the first three of the four benefits of experiencing Holy Spirit power in our lives from your outline, share some stories on how you've experienced these benefits.
6. Aren't all Christians "sons [and daughters] of God" (Romans 8:14)? A quick explanation of this verse: The label a child had when born was first he was a "child;" at age 14 he was given the label of a "son" when he could practice certain rights. However, it wasn't until he was 25 that he had full rights as a son (property rights especially).
 - How does this growing up and getting different labels help us understand what Paul wrote in Romans 8:14? (And even help us understand Romans 8:23?)
7. Romans 8:17 adds that whole thing about suffering with Christ. Check out these other passages and highlight what they say can (and maybe should) be our experience as followers of Christ (Matthew 5:10-12; 2 Timothy 3:12; 1 Peter 2:19-24; 3:14). How are you doing with this?
 - Do you agree or disagree with this statement — "Today, Christians in America really don't suffer for Jesus...they don't really have to."
 - How can we know that we are actually being persecuted for Jesus sake and not just because we are being annoying?
8. The idea that there are rewards to come if we let the Holy Spirit reign in our lives is backed up by Romans 8:17; 1 Corinthians 3:10-15; 2 Corinthians 5:10; among many other passages throughout the Bible. Why is this Biblical truth both hard to accept as well as a great motivator for our life?