

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

For the week of April 23-29, 2023

"ICYMI: SALVATION (PART 2)"

GETTING STARTED

To the facilitator: Use this section to introduce the topic. If possible, give a brief recap of the sermon.

Share a memorable point, a spiritual lesson, a personal application, a question, or something that challenged you from the sermon last Sunday.

Have you ever bought something or paid for something and then changed your mind later? What was it and why did you change your mind?

GROUP DISCUSSION

1. Have there been times when you looked at an unbeliever and said, "My goodness, why can't he/she ever understand the gospel and receive the free gift of salvation?" In what ways do we take credit for or become prideful of God's gift of salvation?
2. In 1 John 3:9, how do we know that someone is born of God? What does it mean to "practice sin," and how does it differ from "making a mistake"? How does knowing that we are born of God and cannot continually practice sin impact our daily lives?
3. When you consider the role of the Trinity in securing your salvation, does it encourage you? Reflect on your life today: Does God's assurance of salvation cause you to be complacent or more passionate in serving and living for him? Why or why not?
4. *Share.* At what point in your life did you (finally) realize that you were saved?
5. *Share.* Who in your life has offered you the most Christ-like expression(s) of God's grace? Share about their impact on your life. How do their offerings of grace to you, influence you to be gracious with others? Explain.
6. *Application.* What is the difference between a Christian who is motivated by grace and someone who does good works to gain a right standing with God? What does it look/sound/feel like when you are living in your own strength? How can you change that?

7. NEXT STEPS

Our salvation is not based on our performance but on what Jesus has done for us.

- ☐ I will rejoice in God's free gift of salvation in my life.
- ☐ I praise the Triune God for securing my salvation.
- ☐ Because God has saved me so graciously, I will live and serve him all the days of my life.
- ☐ Because I am a recipient of grace, I will be gracious to others.

Don't forget to:

- ☐ Go through the devotionals every day this week.
- ☐ Have a regular daily time of prayer and reading of God's Word.

CLOSING THE SESSION

Close the session by taking the time to pray for one another. Consider the following as you pray:

- Pray that you will constantly live in the assurance of what Christ has done on the cross.
- Pray that the Holy Spirit will continue to captivate and open your eyes to this great salvation that you have received.
- Pray for relationships to grow with other Christ-followers, that you will encourage and care for one another.
- Pray for your unsaved family, friends, and loved ones.
- Pray for protection, provision, healing and comfort for everyone who's going through physical, emotional, mental and spiritual pain.

BIBLE READING GUIDE

April 24 Luke 5:27-32
April 25 Psalms 51:1-19
April 26 Jeremiah 17:5-8
April 27 Hebrews 11:1-6
April 28 2 Corinthians 1:12-22
April 29 John 13:3-17
April 30 1 Samuel 16:1-7