

BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

In preparation for Sunday, January 29, 2006

Passage: Hebrews 6:13-20

Memory Passage: Numbers 23:19

TODAY: *From your study this past week, what is one thing that impressed you that can be of help in your life?*

DAY 1 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Hebrews 6:13-15.** What are oaths and why do we use them?
- (b) What did Abraham learn about taking God at His word according to Romans 4:18-21?
- (c) What promise is referred to in Hebrews 6:14? *When* was *this* promise fulfilled (John 8:36; Galatians 3:6-9; 3:29)? Was it about Isaac or something else?
- (d) Why is hope necessary; what does it do for us (Romans 8:24-25)? When did he receive the promise (Hebrews 6:15)? Does endurance *secure* the promise or does the promise *encourage* endurance? What is the difference?
- (e) What does the writer of Hebrews encourage these struggling Christians to hold on to in Hebrews 10:23? *Why* does he say they should hold fast? What is the basis of our confidence and assurance?
- (f) *Family:* Read Hebrews 6:13-15. What is a “promise?” Why do we give promises? Do we make promises that we cannot keep (or even intend not to keep)? How is this different from God? Why do we trust the promises of God? What is the best promise that God has given you? Thank God for some of His promises.

DAY 2 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Hebrews 6:16-17.** How is the counsel of God described in verse 16? What does Ephesians 1:11-12 tell us about the basis upon which God determines all things? What is the reason that He does all things?
- (b) What do Psalms 33:11, Proverbs 19:21 and Isaiah 14:24 tell us about the counsels/plans of God? How does this give believers “consolation” or “strong encouragement”?
- (c) How would your confidence in the promises of God be affected if God changed His mind about His plans?
- (d) How does an oath between men result in the “end of the matter?” Why should the word of God be even more “the end of the matter” for us?
- (e) What is God’s promise to us (Romans 10:11-13; John 5:24; 6:47)? Will this promise ever fail?
- (f) *Family:* Read Hebrews 6:16-17 and Psalm 33:11. Talk about the immutability of God. What does it mean? Why does it matter? How would our salvation be affected if God ever changed His mind? What is an oath? Did God need to give one? Why does He give us an oath anyway? Spend some time praising God for His unchanging Word.

DAY 3 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Hebrews 6:18.** Is there anything that is impossible for God to do? What do these verses tell us is impossible for God: Numbers 23:19; 1 Samuel 15:29; Romans 3:4; Titus 1:2?
- (b) Read 2 Timothy 2:11-13. What is the first promise that is made in verse 11? How is the verse tense different from those that follow? What does this tell us about assurance of salvation?
- (c) Look at 2 Timothy 2:12. What is different about the promises in these verses? Do they tell us that the Lord will reward and judge His people?
- (d) What is the denial that Paul speaks about? Is it eternal or temporary? Compare Matthew 10:32-33 with its parallel in Mark 8:38. What does the writer of Hebrews say is God’s response to those who draw back in Hebrews 10:38-39?
- (e) Look at 2 Timothy 2:13. What does this mean? Why does God keep His promises to us even when we don’t keep our promise to Him?
- (f) *Family:* Read Hebrews 6:17-18 and Romans 3:4. Talk about lying. Is it true that every person lies? How is God different from us? Why can’t God lie? Can God do anything contrary to His character? Do we ever fail God? Does He ever fail us? How does this give us assurance and encouragement even when we fail? Pray for an area in your life where you need strength to trust God.

DAY 4 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Hebrews 6:18-20.** What is a “city of refuge” (Numbers 35:9-29; Joshua 20:1-6)? How long was the guilty man protected in this city? At the death of the high priest, what happened to the man?
- (b) What does the writer of Hebrews tell us about Jesus as our High Priest in Hebrews 7:23-25? Where is he now? How does this affect our assurance of salvation (Hebrews 7:25; Romans 8:33-34)?
- (c) What does the picture of the anchor tell you about your salvation?
- (d) What veil is he referring to (Hebrews 9:3; 9:7; 10:18-22)? What is the importance of this anchor being behind/within the veil?
- (e) *Family:* Read Hebrews 6:18-20 and Romans 8:33-34. Talk about how the city of refuge and the anchor symbolize the security we have in Christ. How is Jesus a better High Priest than all the others? Thank God for the salvation that He made secure through what Jesus did for us.

DAY 5 – ASK FOR INSIGHT**READ THE PASSAGE**

- (a) **Read Colossians 1:3-12.** Read through this passage. Compare this with Hebrews 6:9-20. What similar terms are used? What similar ideas are mentioned?
- (b) Why did Paul give thanks for these believers (verses 3-6)? Compare this with Hebrews 6:10.
- (c) What was Paul's prayer for the Colossians in verses 9-10? How is this similar to the exhortation in Hebrews 6:11-12?
- (d) *Where* is our "hope laid up" according to verse 5? Compare this with Hebrews 6:19. *Who* is our "hope" according to 1 Timothy 1:1? How should this give us hope and encouragement?
- (e) Read Colossians 1:26-29. What is the "hope of glory" that Paul speaks about? How is this a mystery? What should we do with what we have been given?
- (a) *Family:* Read Colossians 1:3-14 and 1:26-29. Talk about what "hope" means and why it is important for us to have hope, especially in difficult times. What difficulties were these Hebrews Christians facing? How would their hope in Christ encourage them to keep living for Him? Talk about the mystery of "Christ in us." Why is this a "mystery?" Pray for someone that needs to know Christ as savior.

DAY 6 – ASK FOR INSIGHT**READ THE PASSAGE**

Think back through what you have learned each day this week. Read Hebrews 6:13-20. What are some reasons in this passage that we can be sure about our salvation? How is God's character a factor in our assurance? What is Jesus doing now that gives us assurance? What is the basis of your assurance of salvation? Pray that the Word may be taught clearly in church tomorrow and that some who have never heard the gospel might come to trust in Christ alone.

DATE: January 29, 2006

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Resting in His Promise

"it is impossible for God to lie..."