

BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

In preparation for Sunday, March 3, 2013

Passage: Romans 5:18-21

Memory Passage: Romans 6:10-11

DAY 1 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Read Rom. 5:12-21.** Review what you have learned in vs. 12-17 by answering the following questions: 1) What is the progression of sin & death revealed in v. 12 and why is it important? 2) What does the phrase, “because all sinned” mean? 3) What are the 3 ways Paul contrasts Adam and Christ in vs. 15-17? 4) What is the difference between the life of those who live under death’s reign and those who reign in life?

(b) Remember that in v. 18 Paul continues the thought he began in v. 12, so v. 18 begins with a summary of what he already said in v. 12. What is being compared in vs. 18-21 (notice the grammatical construction, “as . . . so” or “for as . . . even so” or “just as . . . so also,” depending on your version, that is found 3 times in these verses)?

(c) Even though Adam and Christ are being compared in verses 18-21 (i.e. they both worked), what are the dissimilarities between their work shown in these verses (you should find dissimilarities in both their work and the results of their work)? How are vs. 18-20 connected to vs. 15-17?

(d) *Family: Read Rom. 5:12-21.* Return to the 2-columned list you made 2 weeks ago and spend some time reviewing what you learned about the work of Adam and the work of Christ, why the contrasts are important, and how these facts reflect Adam being “a type of the one who was to come.” Explain that the word for “type” means “pattern, form, or example,” and that you are examining in Rom. 5:15-21 the ways that Adam was an imperfect example of the perfect work of Christ.

DAY 2 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Rom. 5:18-21.** What do we learn new about Christ’s work in v. 18? What is the “one act of righteousness” to which Paul refers in v. 18 (cf. Phil. 2:8)? How does this compare to the “one transgression” of Adam?

(b) Who makes up the “all” who are condemned? Who makes up the “all” who receive justification and life? Does Paul’s use of the term “all” refer to different groups than when he uses the phrases “many” (v. 15) and “the many” (v. 19)? What information does the context of 5:12-21 provide to aid you in developing your answer?

(c) How would you answer this question: “When Paul says ‘one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for *all* men’ is he not teaching that all men and women will eventually be saved and granted eternal life?” Use information you find in our context of 5:12-21, from the broader context of Romans 1-5, and from other passages of Scripture to think through and provide a full-orbed answer.

(d) *Family: Read Rom. 5:18-19.* The list you have been working on the last couple of weeks is probably full by now, so start a new list with v. 18 by writing the headings, “Adam’s Work” and “Christ’s Work.” Then have your family look through vs. 18-19 and tell you what to write down under each heading (Adam’s work was engaging in a trespass, which is described as “disobedience,” and his work made all his people sinners and placed them under condemnation; Christ’s work was one obedient act of righteousness which reversed the results of Adam’s work and provided righteousness, justification, and life for all of His people). Draw attention to both the similarities (both worked) and contrasts (their work had different results).

DAY 3 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Rom. 5:18-21.** What have you learned already in Romans that helps you answer this question: “How does Jesus’ one act of righteousness provide justification, righteousness, and life for all who receive His grace, and why do we need these gifts?”

(b) Who was Jesus obeying when He carried out His “one act of righteousness?” What Scripture supports your answer?

(c) We tell each other often at BCC that believers need the gospel every day, and that we are to preach the gospel to ourselves every day. How do you accomplish this in your daily life? What truths found in Rom. 5:12-21 help fuel this fire of self-directed gospel preaching? Another way of asking this is: how does this finished & perfect work of Christ that provided for your justification help you live a gospel-centered life? Be specific, noting how these truths should help you overcome pride, legalism, self-righteousness, selfishness, entitlement mentality, anger, laziness in ministry, and so many other areas of life to which we must daily crucify ourselves and trust again in the finished work of Christ. Be ready to share these thoughts in your class on Sunday.

(d) *Family: Read Romans 5:18-19.* Spend today reviewing what Romans teaches us about why we need the righteousness & justification that leads to life (see, for example, Rom. 1:18ff, 2:12-16, & 3:19-20), and how God provided it for us through Jesus (see, for example, Rom. 1:16-17, 3:21-30, 5:6-11).

DAY 4 – ASK FOR INSIGHT**READ THE PASSAGE**

(a) **Read Rom. 5:20-21, 7:7-13, & Gal. 3:19-21.** Why does Paul turn to the law in v. 20? How does the law “increase the trespass?” Whose trespass is increased?

(b) Explain the phrase “the law came” (i.e. who sent it, was this its only purpose, when did it come, etc.).

(c) Explain what you learn about sin from Romans 7:7-13 & Gal. 3:19-21, and how these sections of Scripture help (or confuse ☺) your understanding of Rom. 5:20.

(d) How and why does “grace abound all the more” when the trespass is increased (I know we will talk about this much more next week, but for now, give an overview of your answer)?

(e) *Family: Read Rom. 5:17-21.* Have your family identify the 4 times the word “reign” is used in these verses (2 in v. 17 & 2 in v. 21). If needed, give a definition of the word “reign” and some examples they will understand (i.e. a king’s reign, the year-long reign of a beauty queen, etc.). Now have them write a sentence that describes the reign under which those who are in Adam live, and a sentence that describes the reign under which those who are in Christ live. Have them share their sentences, and use this time to review the concepts you have learned in Romans 5:12-21 (it should be easy to address most, if not all, of the topics covered as you help them fully summarize these to reigns).

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

(a) **Read Rom. 5:12-21.** Write down the characteristics of the reign under which those who are in Adam live, and the characteristics of the reign under which those who are in Christ live. Compare the 2 reigns, and describe their differences.

(b) Summarize, in one paragraph using your own words, the truths taught in 5:12-21. Be clear and concise, but don’t define every term. Think of how you would summarize this paragraph if you were asked to give the summary of vs. 12-21 that would precede a chapter or book that will go into great expositional depth on this passage.

(c) Write down at least 5 applications of vs. 12-21 that you can begin to implement in your life today. Be ready to share these with your class so that as a group you can encourage each other to be obedient to apply these objective truths you have learned.

(d) *Family:* Work together to memorize Romans 6:10-11. After you spend some time memorizing (remember that you can use any of the games we have already covered to aid memorization), review Romans 6:1-9. Now return to 6:10-11 to see what your family remembers!

DATE: March 3, 2013

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In Christ vs. In Adam Part III