

Small Group/Sermon Notes based on IF Part 2

Remember, small groups are primarily for growing closer relationships with other believers. We can learn wonderful things in this environment but keep relationships first.

- Make sure everyone knows each other's names. Have everyone share a little about themselves and how life is going right now.
- **IF: Conditional Promises of God.**
- Important Qualification:
 - Just because I'm saying there are conditional promises from God doesn't mean that I'm saying God changes or is moody. **James 1:17, Hebrews 13:8**
 - However we must understand these two things:
 - God does respond differently to you (us) depending on what you do.
 - You have the essential role of taking hold of God's promises!
- Last week we looked at the promise of salvation. **Romans 10:5-13.** (Emphasis Romans 10:9)
- This week: Saved from what?
 - It is important to know what you are saved from and what you are saved to!
- **Matthew 1:18-23** explains how and why Jesus was born.
 - So, we are saved from our sins.
 - We always take this individual, but there is a corporate idea too.
 - Today we will look at three ways we are saved from our sins. One is very familiar but very important. The other two are also very important!
- First, we are saved from our sins: **Romans 5:6-10.**
 - Saved from the consequences of our sins: from God's wrath. Yay!!
 - If you want it for yourself you have to share it. **Matthew 6:14-15.**
 - But we are not just merely forgiven, we are born again.
 - There is a new identity that comes to us. **2 Corinthians 6:16-19.**
 - Jesus described this as being "born again" **John 3:3.**
 - What is the difference between being the same person but forgiven vs being born again?
 - Do you need a fresh start? That is the glorious message of the Gospel!
- So, what are other ways we are saved from sin besides God's wrath?
- Second, we are saved from other people's sin. Discuss the following:
 - Many people are more affected by other people's sin that they are by their own!
 - Do not let yourself be defined by someone else's sin! Yuck!!
 - But how do we get free? Simple to say, hard to do: Forgive.
 - Sin creates a bond. It is a negative bond. How do you break that bond?
 - When we forgive it doesn't mean they are off the hook. **Romans 12:17-21.**
 - Jesus liberates us from bondage, including the sins of others. **Luke 4:16-21.**
- Third way is we are saved from our future sins.
 - Why does God not sin? In fact, it is impossible for God to sin! Why?
 - Sin is failure. God can not fail!
 - God also brings us into victory! This is freedom from our future sins!
 - Part of being saved is being saved from corruption: **Acts 2:36-41.**
 - Part of Christ's blessing is being turned from sin: **Acts 3:24-26.**
 - Now, this is a battle. So find the balance. What are the ditches with this idea?
- Where are you at? Do you need forgiveness from your own sins?
 - Do you need freedom from other's sins?
 - Do you need a future free from the same mistakes?
 - Believe God!
- Pray for each other before you finish up!