

Family Group Midweek Lessons

October 9, 2013



Minneapolis | St. Paul | Church of Christ

This Family Group Bible-Talk is intended to supplement the October 6th sermon at the MSPCOC. Although having attended or listened to that lesson is helpful, it is not required to take part in the following discussion.

Opening Questions:

- In general, what is usually your favorite part of the day?
- In general, what is usually the toughest part of the day?
- *Many people would say that the time when they can finally slow down and rest for the remainder of the evening (often that time right before bed) is their favorite time*
- Why do we enjoy periods of rest, whether longer ones like vacation, or shorter ones like a few moments to relax or take a nap, so much?

Read: Hebrews 4

Group Questions:

- What does the word “rest” mean in this passage?
- *Allow some discussion to go on but eventually ensure that your group arrives at the understanding that “rest” here refers primarily to the concept of completing a specific task or state of work*
- *There are three different aspects of “rest” that are referred to in this passage*
 - *The first is God’s rest from the task of creation*
 - *The second is the promised rest for the Exodus generation when they entered into the promised land and no longer had to carry out the task of being in exile in Egypt*
 - *The third is the rest from exile with God due to sin*

Read: Hebrews 4:2

Group Questions:

- *When God rested from the work of creation it looked ahead to a time when we would enter into his rest and be in his presence.*

Israel's entry in the rest of the promised land was supposed to be a picture of that rest but they failed to achieve that

- What do you think the author meant by saying that "they did not share in the faith of those who obeyed?"

Read: 1 Thessalonians 1:8; Romans 1:1-5

Group Questions:

- What does Paul mean when he refers to obeying the gospel? What is the gospel and how do we obey it?
- *The basic point of Romans 1 is that Jesus has been shown to the world to be its true king. The gospel is the public proclamation of that fact.*
- With that in mind, then, what do you think it means to obey the gospel?

Read: Hebrews 4:3

Group Questions:

- What is result of not obeying God in faith when it comes to entering his rest?
- *His point is that if we do not recognize God's Son as King then we make the same mistake that the Exodus generation did and we spurn remaining into God's rest. They spurned the rest of his promised land which was to be a picture of the ultimate rest*
- What is his point, then, for us who can enter into God's ultimate rest?

Read: Hebrews 4:11

Group Questions:

- What do you think the author means by "make every effort" to "enter his rest"?
- Are you making every effort to live as though Jesus is truly the King of every aspect of the world and your life?

Read: Hebrews 4:12-13

Group Questions:

- On the heels of his discussion about entering into God's rest, why would the author move into this discussion of the power of the word of God?
- What does this passage tell us about the effect that the word can and should have in our lives?

Final Thought:

- What will it look like in your life to fully and completely enter in God's rest today?



Inner Action Ministries