

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

For the week of October 1, 2023

One of the best things you can do after hearing truths from the Word of God is to talk about them with others. Here are some questions to help get the conversation started. (hint: the first couple of questions are meant to “break the ice” and get people talking)

- Do you have a favorite ‘junior-church’ song?
- On Sunday, we talked about basic ‘needs.’ What is something that isn’t exactly a ‘need,’ but you still don’t like to live without it?
- Josh said that every person is born with a need to feel ‘seen, soothed, and secure.’ What are some things a parent can do to meet these needs for their children?
- How is a child’s behavior different when these needs are not met?
- How is OUR behavior different when these needs are not met?
- Read I Corinthians 6:9-11. What is it that stands out to you in these verses?
- Describe the three things that I Corinthians 6:11 says happens when a person believes the Gospel.
- What were your thoughts when Josh asked, “As God thinks of you right now, what is the look on His face?” Talk about how our understanding of the Gospel (and I Cor. 6:11) affects our answer.
- Talk about these statements. “If we are not meditating on the Gospel, we tend to try to fulfill our needs in other ways. (like the Corinthians did)” “Sin is our way of trying to secure what only God can provide.”
- Rather than trying to meet these needs through sin, it is tempting to try to be ‘spiritual’ and ‘earn’ God’s attention, soothing, or security. What are some ways that we do this?
- “How am I trying to find fulfillment in someone/something other than Jesus?” How does this question help us when we are struggling?
- Read and talk about these thoughts from Tim Keller:

“Do you realize that it is only in the gospel of Jesus Christ that you get the verdict before the performance? The atheist might say that they get their self-image from being a good person. They are a good person and they hope that eventually they will get a verdict that confirms that they are a good person. Performance leads to the verdict. For the Buddhist too, performance leads to the verdict. If you are a Muslim, performance leads to the verdict. All this means that every day, you are in the courtroom, every day you are on trial. That is the problem. But Paul is saying that in Christianity, the verdict leads to performance. It is not the performance that leads to the verdict. In Christianity, the moment we believe, God says ‘This is my beloved son in whom I am well pleased.’ Or take Romans 8:1 which says ‘Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus’. In Christianity, the moment we believe, God imputes Christ’s perfect performance to us as if it were our own, and adopts us into His family...All I can tell you is that we have to re-live the gospel every time we pray. We have to re-live it every time we go to church. We have to re-live the gospel on the spot and ask ourselves what we are doing in the courtroom. We should not be there. The court is adjourned.”

- Take some time to pray together.

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