

LIGHTHOUSE GROUP CURRICULUM

Romans 8:1-17

LEADER'S STUDY

New life with the Holy Spirit:

Through the gospel we receive forgiveness and righteousness through the death and resurrection of Jesus, then, if that were not enough, the Holy Spirit moves in and takes up residence in our hearts. When you belong to Jesus, His Holy Spirit lives in you and frees you from the power of sin and empowers you to follow Him instead of your own sinful nature. He gives us power to walk in obedience, to depend on God, to love one another and to be transformed. He actually bears witness that we belong to God. Paul is saying that the life of someone who belongs to Jesus looks drastically changed. They think differently, their motives are different, their relationships look different with others and with God. As you read and meditate on this passage, think about how your life looks different because of the Holy Spirit. How is the Holy Spirit transforming you? How is He inviting you to follow Him? You might even consider reading the book of Romans all the way through this week to gain some context

Who is the Holy Spirit? How is the Holy Spirit changing me? What areas of my life am I resisting that change? How is the Holy Spirit leading me to think differently? What does it mean to be free from the power of sin? How is God revealing Himself and his character through this scripture? How is God changing my thinking? Be willing to share areas that He is calling you to "follow Him" and make clear "I" statements about how you are going to align with Him.

Some helpful scripture: John 16:7-8, 1 Corinthians 2:9-10, John 14:16-17, John 3
What other places in scripture speak this same truth?

How is God calling you to think and to live differently? How does this change your perspective today? How is God calling you to respond based on this scripture? Spend some time reading this whole chapter and meditating on it as you prepare for your meeting. Be willing to share this with your group and invite them to join you in sharing how God is asking them to respond to His word.

PREPARING BEFORE GROUP

PURPOSE: Life transformation through the Holy Spirit. He uses scripture and prayer to renew our minds and transform our lives!

PRAY: Pray for the people in your groups by name. Spend time asking the Holy Spirit to help you lead well as you meditate on key passages and seek to know God's heart.

PLAN: It is not too early to start looking for new leaders within your group. We will be holding a new leader training this summer for groups to launch in the fall. As you identify potential leaders, encourage them to come to that training and start talking about what it would look like to launch a new group. You might even consider coming with them to help them take that next step.

Consider taking some time to break into small groups for prayer. This is a way for people to feel more comfortable sharing personal needs and praying specifically for one another.

Consider committing part of your prayer time to the lost in Hancock County and for opportunity and boldness to share the love of Christ with them. This is a good time to start talking about the gospel outreach event on May 16th with your group. Maybe even invite them to join you...

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INTENTIONAL BIBLE READING

READ Romans 8:1-17

Read in the ESV or similar word-for-word translation.

Read it again in the NLT to get a thought-for-thought perspective.

(With larger portions of scripture like this, it's good for multiple people to read it aloud. Especially online, this helps people get used to using their voice)

Try to summarize the passage in your own words.

STUDY QUESTIONS

What seems to be the main point of these verses?

What is significant, surprising or confusing from these verses?

How does this portion of scripture point to Jesus and the gospel?

What did you discover or learn about God and His character from this passage?

Look at one or two key words and define them really clearly, then look at them in context with that definition. Does this change your understanding?

How does this scripture change your thinking?

Why did God bring me to this scripture today?

What parts of this passage are challenging to your current way of thinking?

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

How are you going to obey this passage?

What is your "I will" statement?
(Encourage everyone to steer clear of "we" or "us" or "Christians" statements)

With whom are you going to share what you have learned?
(This is a critical part of growth that is often overlooked. If we can share it with someone else it means we really understand it, it cements it in our own minds, it makes us accountable to the truth and it blesses the one who hears the it. Rom 10:17)

Based on this passage, what can we pray about and how should we pray?