

Growing Together Discussion Questions from Sunday's Sermon

(For Personal Study, Review, Meditation and Mid-Week Group Discussion)

March 10, 2013

- I. **Getting to know you** ~ *Questions for Group Discussion:*
 - a. What's better: a day at the beach or at an amusement park?
 - b. What's better: reading a book or watching a movie?
 - c. What's better: a family picnic at a park or a family dinner at a restaurant?

- II. **Getting into the Bible** ~ *Points from Sunday's Message:*
 - a. Some Key Verses from Sunday's Message: ***Wisdom on What's Better - Proverbs***
 - i. 21:9 It is better to live in a corner of the housetop than in a house shared with a quarrelsome wife.
21:19 It is better to live in a desert land than with a quarrelsome and nagging wife.

 - ii. 15:17 Better is a small serving of vegetables where love is than a fattened ox and hatred with it.
17:1 Better is a dry crust with peace and quiet than a house full of feasting with strife.

 - b. Some Key Points from Sunday's message:
 - i. The source of relational conflict is sin. (Genesis 3)
 1. Sin separates from God.
 2. Sin separates from one another.
 3. The Gospel is the power of God unto salvation / reconciliation.

 - ii. Sin and selfishness:
 1. The husband is tempted to either be passive or dictatorial. (be unloving)
 2. The wife is tempted to either take control or nag. (be un-submissive)
 3. The biblical model from the husband is to lead like God and love like Jesus.
 4. The biblical model for the wife is to be the encouraging co-heir (receiving/encouraging the leadership and reciprocating the love)

 - iii. It's best to live in a home where a husband and wife are a blessing to one another.
 1. Submit to one another out of reverence to Christ (Eph. 5:21).
 - a. Without mutual submission there will be an on-going power struggle for control.
 2. Be filled with the Spirit (Eph. 5:18b).

- a. Submit yourself to the influence and control of the Holy Spirit, allowing the Spirit to rule in the relationship.
3. Have the same mindset as Jesus (Phil 2:1-11).

III. **Getting into Life:**

- a. It is best when the husband loves like Jesus and the wife submits like the Church responds to Jesus. While it is best when both partners are fulfilling their calling, that's not always the case. How does a wife submit to an unloving husband? How does a husband love an unsubmitive wife? (1 Peter 3:1-12)
- b. We live between the fall and glory. We live between the cross and the new heaven and new earth. In the Garden, Adam and Eve experienced a time of a perfect relationship as husband and wife. In heaven we will no longer be husband and wife (Mark 12:18-27), but will once again experience perfection in relationships as redeemed humanity in God's presence. Why was there marriage in the Garden, but no marriage in the new earth? What might we learn from that?
- c. How do you come under the influence and control of alcohol? How do you come under the influence and control of the Holy Spirit? (Ephesians 5:15-20; Gal. 6:7-10)