

Growing Together Discussion Questions from Sunday's Sermon – Sept. 15, 2013

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

- I. **Getting to know you ~ Questions for Group Discussion:**
 - a. Who's the most famous person you have ever met? What famous person would you most like to meet?
 - b. Who are the people in your life that you most desire to please? What things please them the most?
- II. **Getting into the Bible ~ Points from Sunday's Message:**
 - a. We find pleasure in pleasing other people.
 - i. Babies, husbands/wives, coaches, bosses, etc...
 - ii. We find great pleasure in pleasing the most please-worthy people in our lives.
 - b. Scripture: **We make it our goal, our aim, our ambition to please Him** [God]. (2 Cor. 5:9a)
 - i. Because He *has given* us an eternal dwelling. (2 Cor. 5:1-9)
 - ii. When we receive our eternal dwelling, He will be present and will reward our faithfulness. (2 Cor. 5:10)
 - c. Question: Is God hard to please?
 - i. "*This is my Son, whom I love; with Him I am well pleased.*" (Matt 3:17)
 1. God is pleased with His Son!
 2. If we could just be in Jesus...and if Jesus could be in us.... then God would be pleased with us too!
 - a. Trusting in Jesus results in intimacy with Jesus.
 - i. We are in Him. (2 Cor. 5:17)
 - ii. He is in us. (2 Cor. 5:5)
 - b. Trusting in Jesus results in imitation of Jesus.
 - i. Whoever claims to live in him must live as Jesus did. (1 John 2:6)
 - ii. God is pleased when we believe Him and trust in His Son.
 - d. Our Mission: **Our purpose and our passion is to bring God pleasure by believing His Word and doing His will in the power He provides for the praise of His glory on earth and in heaven!**
 - i. Our aim is to please God.
 - ii. We please God when we believe God.
 - iii. When we believe God we obey God (the obedience of faith).
 - iv. When we obey God we receive power and grace from God.
 - v. When we receive from God we rejoice in God.
 - vi. When we rejoice in God, God is glorified in us.
 - III. **Getting into Life:**
 - a. The Apostle Paul tell us to "*find out what pleases the Lord*" (Eph 5:10). How does this apply to the reality that believing God is pleasing to God?
 - b. How does the knowledge that you are pleasing to God provide you a satisfying and stabilizing pleasure?
 - c. How does a passion to please God play out in your daily life?