

Growth Group Homework

Living IN the Real World: No Sloppy Living Allowed

Discussing the week of April 23

Theme

We are called to be Holy as God is Holy. How do we do that?

Primary Text

Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19

116:1 I love the LORD, because he has heard my voice and my supplications.

116:2 Because he inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live.

116:3 The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me; I suffered distress and anguish.

116:4 Then I called on the name of the LORD: "O LORD, I pray, save my life!"

116:12 What shall I return to the LORD for all his bounty to me?

116:13 I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD,

116:14 I will pay my vows to the LORD in the presence of all his people.

116:15 Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his faithful ones.

116:16 O LORD, I am your servant; I am your servant, the child of your serving girl. You have loosed my bonds.

116:17 I will offer to you a thanksgiving sacrifice and call on the name of the LORD.

116:18 I will pay my vows to the LORD in the presence of all his people,

116:19 in the courts of the house of the LORD, in your midst, O Jerusalem. Praise the LORD!

1 Peter 1:17-23

1:17 If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile.

1:18 You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold,

1:19 but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish.

1:20 He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake.

1:21 Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.

1:22 Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart.

1:23 You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

What Brings you hope?

GOING DEEPER

1. Psalm 116:2 says, “Because God inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live.” What do you think it means that “God inclined his ear to me”? *[God is always listening.]*
2. What might “you have loosed my bonds” (Psalm 116:16 New Revised Standard Version) or “you’ve freed me from my chains” (Common English Bible) mean? Will you share if you have had an experience that these metaphors describe?
3. What do you think are the “perishable things like silver or gold” in our current life? (1 Peter 1:18) *[money, status, fame, stocks, jewelry, a house or land]*
4. What does Peter’s contrast of “perishable things like silver or gold” with “the precious blood of Christ” highlight? *[Even the finest commodities and things of this world will not sustain you like a relationship with Christ (remember blood often denotes life).]*
5. What does Peter’s statement, “Your faith and hope are set on God,” mean to you? What might it mean for your church community? (1 Peter 1:21)
6. How does what Peter said lead to his command to “love one another deeply from the heart” (v. 22)? *[We can do so only through our relationship with God through Jesus Christ.]*

Prayer Requests:



Sending Prayer: Gracious and Loving God, we give you thanks for inclining your ear to us. We have been born anew, not of perishable but imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God. Even though we have committed sins, *“you have loosed our bonds.”* Now help us to share our joy in our homes, churches, communities, and the world. In the name of the Risen Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ we pray. Amen. (Adapted from Psalm 116)



Growth Group Community Service Project

We ask every group to take on at least one service project a year (the ideal is two) and to have at least one social gathering (potluck) per half a year. Please consider with your group members of what community service you'd like to participate in. There is a project list made by our church that you can join in and outside the church.
