

LIFE Group Discussion Guide
Sunday, July 25, 2010

Sermon Title: "What We Believe about Salvation"

Sermon Series: So What?

Sermon Text: Selected

Open

1. Share one way that God worked in your life last week. [**Leader's Note:** You will notice this question as the opening question each week in order to facilitate the sharing of faith stories and to train people to be looking for ways that God is working in their lives. This can be a very positive experience for your group.]
2. When have you shown mercy to a person who deserved to be punished?
3. What is the best gift you've ever received?

Dig

1. Today we're talking about what we believe about salvation and why that matters. Let's start by reading Ephesians 2:1-10.
2. Two times in this passage Paul says that "it is by grace you have been saved." What does it mean to be saved by grace?
3. In verses 8-10 Paul says that we are not saved by works and that we are created in Christ Jesus to do good works. Is Paul contradicting himself here? Why or why not?
4. In the sermon Rusty said that humility helps us understand that salvation is on God's terms and is accomplished through God's means, not ours. What are the terms and means of salvation that God has prescribed for us in His Word? [**Leader's Note:** If you want to have some fun, challenge your group to cite specific scriptures with their answers.]
5. In what ways do people try to set their own terms for salvation? What examples can you give of how people have created their own means of salvation?
6. In the sermon we looked at how the New Testament speaks of salvation in the past, present, and future tenses. Have you considered that before and what does that mean to you?
7. Let's look at three passages that deal with how salvation pilots our present existence: 1 Corinthians 15:2; Ephesians 2:10; 2 Timothy 1:9. What do these passages say about living as "the saved"?
8. What are some other practical ways that the salvation and grace of God impact how you live?

Reflect

1. Do you believe that salvation is an on-going process? Why or why not?
2. If salvation is an on-going process then we are constantly in need of forgiveness and grace. Let's take a few moments to think about the things we need to be forgiven of and silently pray to God and ask for his forgiveness.