

Personal Bible Study Week 5

Day 1:

Read Matthew 28: 16-20 and Mark 16: 9-20

1. “Jesus, undeterred, went right ahead and gave his charge: ‘God authorized and
2. commanded me to commission you:’” Why do you think Jesus needs to make the statement before giving the command “Go out and train everyone you meet, far and near, in this way of life, marking them by baptism in the threefold name: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.?”
3. What is the meaning of this statement for the church of today?
4. What comfort does verse 20 gives you?
5. Jesus gives three commands, what are they and what are their meaning for today?
6. What is the comprehensive message in Mark 16: 15? What are the implications for today?
7. What conclusions can you draw in connection with Mark 16: 17-18 for those who believed according to Mark 16: 17-18?

Day 2:

Read Acts 10

1. What is the main thought of this chapter? Which verse do you consider as the main point of this part?
2. What are the far reaching implications of this for the church of today?
3. What was the view of Peter that had to change?
4. What do verses 44-48 prove?
5. What is the message of this piece of scripture for you?

Day 3:

Read Romans 2:1-16

1. In Romans 1: 18-32 the worst possible picture of evil is described. What is it that Paul wants to tell the people of Rome in Romans 2:1-16? What do you consider as the main thought of this piece?
2. In context, what does verse 11 mean?
3. What happens to the people who have never heard the gospel?
4. How do you see missionary work in the light of Romans 1: 18-2: 16?
5. What did God say to you, specifically, in this piece of scripture today?

Day 4:

Read Romans 3: 9-31

1. What, according to this piece, is the general condition of man? Is it something a believer should only give a passing attention?
2. What is God's answer to this?
3. What is the specific deed that is needed for salvation? What is not expected of man?
4. What is the message in this for you?

Day 5:

Read Romans 10

1. What is Paul's wish for the unbelievers of Israel?
2. In this piece Paul makes an important statement that is the basis of man's salvation. What is it?
3. Take note of his arguments since verse 13. Take note of the different stages in his argument and ponder on it.
4. What does these Words of God has to do with Israel? What were the consequences?
5. What are today's results of this? How do we react to this?

Day 6:

Read Acts 13: 1-12, 42-52

1. One of the most important acts in the history of man is being described here. What is it?
2. Who takes the initiative for the world wide movement that started here?
3. To whom did Paul and Barnabas turn in the beginning?
4. Why did they not succeed completely in their missionary endeavors?
5. What important act of Paul came about because of this?
6. In Verse 48-49 some very special things are said. Think about the fact that this expansion of the missionary work brought the gospel to most of our forefathers. Do we not have to be glad about it? What do you honestly think and feel concerning this?

“When the non-Jewish outsiders heard this, they could hardly believe their good fortune. All who were marked out for real life put their trust in God--they honored God's Word by receiving that life. And this Message of salvation spread like wildfire all through the region.”

Act 13:48- Act 13:49

Group Bible Study week 5

Read Ephesians 3: 1-13

Verse 1

“This is why I, Paul, am in jail for Christ, having taken up the cause of you outsiders, so-called.”

He belongs to his Lord Jesus Christ and is in chains because of it.

Verse 3

“I got the inside story on this from God himself, as I just wrote you in brief.”

Paul is probably referring to Acts 26: 12-18 or to Galatians 1: 15-18. That is where he got the insight into God's plan:

“had no idea of any of this, didn't know the first thing about the way God works, hadn't the faintest idea of Christ. You knew nothing of that rich history of God's covenants and promises in Israel, hadn't a clue about what God was doing in the world at large.

Now because of Christ--dying that death, shedding that blood--you who were once out of it altogether are in on everything. The Messiah has made things up between us so that we're now together on this, both non-Jewish outsiders and Jewish insiders. He tore down the wall we used to keep each other at a distance. He repealed the law code that had become so clogged with fine print and footnotes that it hindered more than it helped. Then he started over. Instead of continuing with two groups of people separated by centuries of animosity and suspicion, he created a new kind of human being, a fresh start for everybody. Christ brought us together through his death on the Cross. The Cross got us to embrace, and that was the end of the hostility. Christ came and preached peace to you outsiders and peace to us insiders. He treated us as equals, and so made us equals. Through him we both share the same Spirit and have equal access to the Father. That's plain enough, isn't it? You're no longer wandering exiles. This kingdom of faith is now your home country. You're no longer strangers or outsiders. You belong here, with as much right to the name Christian as anyone. God is building a home. He's using us all--irrespective of how we got here--in what he is building. He used the apostles and prophets for the foundation. Now he's using you, fitting you in brick by brick, stone by stone, with Christ Jesus as the cornerstone that holds all the parts together. We see it taking shape day after day--a holy temple built by God, all of us built into it, a temple in which God is quite at home.”

Eph 2:12 - Eph 2:22

Verse 6

“same promises in Christ Jesus”

The promise of salvation.

Verse 7

“This is my life work: helping people understand and respond to this Message.”

Paul was completely dedicated to serving.

Verse 10

“this extraordinary plan of God is becoming known and talked about even among the angels!”

This has to be made know by the church, the fruit of God’s congregation. God’s mercy on strangers.

1. What is the so-called inside story that Paul is speaking about?
2. Why and to what extend do we have to insight into this inside knowledge?
3. What was Paul’s responsibility concerning this and what is our responsibility?
4. What are the two things responsible for Paul’s role as God’s servant? What is the meaning of this?
5. Why shouldn’t the Ephesians become despondent?
6. Now, keeping the above in mind, discuss the following statement: In building the congregations an outwards building is stimulated, and: In the outward building of the congregation the building of the congregation is achieved and assured.