

DISCUSSION IDEAS

ELDER LEADERSHIP

Hebrews 13:17

August 2nd, 2015

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♦ DISCUSSION POINT ONE – OUR CULTURAL VALUES

Concept to consider: All human cultures need to be redeemed. What we have been taught to value may be false and damaging ways of dealing with life. (One New Guinea culture held treachery to be their highest value!!)

Is it likely that our culture would hold to God's values?

Our own cultural assumption: An American's highest value is to be radically independent.

How does that fit with what Jesus said in John 14:20-21 and in John 17:20-21? Jesus invites us into the Trinity!

♦ DISCUSSION POINT TWO – LIVING IN COMMUNITY – GOD'S FAMILY

If God wants me to live "in community", accepting other believers into my personal life, what does that look like?

What kinds of decisions are mine alone?

What kinds should involve advice from others?

Look at Proverbs 11:14, 15:22 and 24:6.

Compare this to Hebrews 13:17.

How does the idea of obedience and submitting to our Spiritual leaders fit into being part of something outside of our own shell?

1 Peter 5:1-7 talks about such a "family" setting. What does Peter say in verses 2 & 3 about the character of such leadership?

In verse 7, how does "casting all our cares" on God relate to submission to an authority established and guided by His Holy Spirit?

♦ DISCUSSION POINT THREE – LIVING BY FAITH

How does the idea of FAITH (TRUST) fit into this discussion?

Galatians 2:20 says:

"I HAVE BEEN CRUCIFIED WITH CHRIST;

AND IT IS NO LONGER I WHO LIVE,

BUT CHRIST LIVES IN ME;

AND THE LIFE WHICH I NOW LIVE IN THE BODY

I LIVE BY TRUST IN THE SON OF GOD,

WHO LOVED ME AND GAVE HIMSELF UP FOR ME."

[Gal 2:20 (NASB + "body" instead of "flesh" and "trust" instead of "faith".)]