

The Benefits & Blessings of Covenant Membership

Our Covenant Life Together

Various Scripture Passages

Sunday, February 7, 2010

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Benefits & Blessings of Covenant Membership . . .

1. A covenant commitment can move us from _____
_____ to _____.

2. A covenant commitment can move us from _____
_____ spirituality to _____.

3. A covenant commitment can move us from _____ to
_____.

4. A covenant commitment can move us from a mere
“Gospel _____ witness” to a
“Gospel _____ witness.”

Not only does the Bible

not _____ the practice of
“covenant membership” in the local church,
it _____ and _____ it.

Potential Dangers of a Covenant Membership . . .

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

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PREPARING to be with One Another

Use a separate sheet of paper or notebook to work through these questions in advance of your Growth Group gathering. The more people come prepared, the richer and deeper and more real our discussions will be with one another.

CONNECTING with One Another

Open your time by checking in with one another to see how you're doing and how one another's week was. Here's one possible get to know you question . . .

Are you an introvert or an extrovert and how do you know?

EXPLORING God's Word with One Another

Remember, we're giving you more than you can really discuss here. Pick a few questions that will take you back into the content of the passage and message.

1. Read 1 Peter 4: 8-11. To what three things here does Peter charge the churches? How do these three embody the spirit of "covenant community/membership?"
2. What is the ultimate end of our life and relationships together according to 1 Peter 4:11?
3. How do individualism and consumerism undermine the covenant commitment that 1 Peter 4 describes? How can a covenant membership help us face and fight these worldly molds?

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4. What does Ephesians 5:15-21 say? (especially 5:21) What does this have to do with the concept of "covenant membership?"

APPLYING God's Word with One Another

1. Compare the concepts of "covenant membership" with the covenant couples commonly make in marriage? How are these two parallel? How are they different? Are wedding vows explicitly laid out in the bible?
2. What are the four potential dangers that come with "covenant membership?" What are ways we can avoid these dangers? Should these dangers keep us from moving toward "covenant membership?"
3. Which one of the 4 benefits/blessings covered in the message, most resonated with you and why?
4. Why, when we talk about covenant membership, do many of us automatically think strictly in terms of the shepherd/flock relationship, instead of our mutual relationships with one another? How do we change to a more balanced, biblical, whole paradigm here?

PRAYING for One Another

1. Quickly share personal requests.
2. Use the truth of the message as a "springboard" to pray for your personal growth, your Growth Group and the growth of our life at GraceSLO.