

DYING *to* LIVE

For Group Discussion

Answer these questions prior to your Small Group meeting this week.

Check-in

LAST WEEK'S ACTION STEP

From the information we discussed the last time we met, what did you apply to your life in a practical way?

OTHER POTENTIAL TOPICS FOR CHECK-IN

TIME WITH GOD - What are you applying that you are getting from your daily time with God?

MEMORY/MEDITATION VERSE - State it.

ACCOUNTABILITY FOR - Who was accountable for you? Did they care for you by helping you achieve your action step(s) this past week?

Introduction

The spiritual life is full of paradoxes. One of the biggest is the commonly held belief concerning how a person gets into Heaven. Many people believe that we can get to Heaven by simply being a good person. But how "good" is "good enough?" Scripture tells us the standard for getting into Heaven is perfection. But who can live up to that standard? Only one (Jesus) - and we should be able to explain how we discovered this truth and help others discover the same reality.

Discussion Questions

1. Read Proverbs 16:25. A recent study shows 58% of Americans describe themselves as "moderately to non-religious." That same study shows 80% of Americans believe in heaven or some sort of afterlife. What do you think this study reveals about the basis or standard most people are hoping for? Why has this belief become so common?

2. If good people go to heaven, then we need a clear and consistent definition for what is good. We need a list or set of rules that reflect the standard. Can you think of a list or set of rules designed to reflect God's standards? If so, can you name at least three of those rules/standards? How many of those standards would you say you have broken in your lifetime? Read James 2:10.



Small Group Questions Continued

3. Read Romans 3:20. Based on this passage, why were the Ten Commandments given to Moses? What is the benefit of knowing just how sinful you actually are?

Read Romans 3:21-28. How does this passage contrast the belief that good people go to heaven?

4. Read 1 Peter 3:15. Scripture challenges us to be prepared to give an answer for the reason we belong to Christ. Based on what's been revealed in the scripture, your group discussion, and this weekend's talk use the space below to write out your thoughts on the following questions.

- If you died today, and God asked, "Why should I let you into heaven," what would you say?

- Why isn't being "good" good enough?

How will gathering your thoughts on these two questions help you lead others to the truth? What difference will this truth make in your life this week?

Action Step

Fill in the blanks below for this upcoming week.

My action steps are _____.

I'm accountable for _____, and their action steps are _____.

My memory verse is _____.

This coming week, I'm praying for:

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____