

THE SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD AND A TRULY GRATEFUL HEART

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JOURNEY GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

1] WHY ME? WHY NOW?

HAVE YOU EVER HAD THIS THOUGHT? HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED WHY GOD WOULD CHOOSE TO PLACE YOU IN TIME WHEN HE DID? IT'S TRULY A MYSTERY AS WE UNDERSTAND THE THOUSANDS OF YEARS OF HISTORY BEFORE WE WERE BORN TO THE POSSIBLE THOUSANDS OF YEARS THAT ARE TO FOLLOW AFTER WE DIE. I LOVE WHAT MOSES WRITES IN THE BOOK OF DEUTERONOMY:

"THE SECRET THINGS BELONG TO THE LORD OUR GOD, BUT THE THINGS THAT ARE REVEALED BELONG TO US AND TO OUR CHILDREN FOREVER, THAT WE MAY DO ALL THE WORDS OF THIS LAW." (DEUT. 29:29)

TALK WITH YOUR JOURNEY GROUP ABOUT THIS "TRANSCENDENT" REALITY AND CONSIDER HOW THE WILL AND PURPOSE OF GOD HAS PLACED YOU IN TIME.

1] WHO AM I AND WHAT IS MY PURPOSE?

I DON'T THINK THERE HAS EVER BEEN A PERSON ALIVE WHO HASN'T QUESTIONED THEIR MEANING...WHY THEY WERE BORN, WHAT THEIR PURPOSE FOR LIVING IS. BY GOD'S GRACE, HIS WORD REVEALS THE MEANING OF OUR LIVES, REMINDING US THAT WE WERE CREATED TO BRING HONOR AND GLORY TO GOD (1 SAM. 12:24, JOHN 17:4, ECC. 12:13).

SO, WHETHER YOU EAT OR DRINK, OR WHATEVER YOU DO, DO ALL TO THE GLORY OF GOD. (1 CORINTH. 10:31)

WHAT ARE SOME VERY SPECIFIC THINGS IN YOUR LIFE TODAY THAT YOU CAN "DO TO THE GLORY OF GOD?"

3] A LIFESTYLE OF GRATITUDE

IF YOU ARE AN AMERICAN (LIKE ME), YOU MOST LIKELY STRUGGLE WITH A LEVEL OF ENTITLEMENT AND A CONSUMERIST BENT; WE CAN HAVE CERTAIN EXPECTATIONS OF WEALTH AND HAPPINESS AS WELL AS A SEEMINGLY INSATIABLE DESIRE FOR MORE (OR NEWER). AND YET, WHEN REALITY HITS, MOST OF US HAVE WAY MORE THAN WE COULD EVER NEED, AND IF WE KNOW JESUS AND HAVE ACCESS TO HIS WORD, WE SHOULD TRULY BE ETERNALLY GRATEFUL. HOW CAN YOU BE MORE GRATEFUL IN YOUR LIFE TODAY? HOW CAN YOU SHOWCASE GOD'S PROVISION IN YOUR LIFE (BOTH PHYSICAL AND SPIRITUAL) AND REMIND THOSE AROUND YOU THAT GOD IS GOOD AND THAT HE TAKES CARE OF HIS CHILDREN. TAKE SOME TIME TO PONDER HOW GOD HAS TAKEN CARE OF YOU AND SPEND SOME TIME THANKING HIM FOR ALL HE'S DONE IN YOUR LIFE.