



Who Are You?

A South Pacific Christian Ministries Bible Study

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Instructions

This study is designed to use questions and scriptures to enable believers to gain understanding of the topic. While it may be used for individual study, it is designed for a group setting. The Leader's Guide provides a group leader with additional information, scripture passages, and directional comments to enable and direct the discussion. The questions provided are designed to direct the discussion and enable participants to gain insight into the topic.

Group Leaders should read the summary and Leader's Guide prior to the meeting. It is also helpful if you read the scriptures and answer the questions in the Study Question section. The Study Question should be provided to participants in advance of the group meeting so that they have time to read the scriptures and answer the questions. During the group meeting follow the Leader's Guide, reading the scripture passages as they are presented, read or discuss the information presented. It is helpful to have members of the group read the scriptures out loud. Ask the questions in the order that they appear in the Leader's Guide. Keep in mind the recommended answer participants present their answers. Depending on the answers provided by the group, you may want to ask additional questions to help them see the recommend answer.

It should be noted that this and our other studies often reference scriptural symbolism. As with the parables that Jesus told, a scriptural symbolism represents a deeper truth found within a passage. In order for scriptural symbolism to be valid it must line up with scripture and be supported by scripture and conform to the character of God.

All scripture references found in this study are the King James version, unless otherwise noted. Do not use or allow the use of none scripture references during the discussion. In particular, so called lost books, the Apocrypha books or any other book or material not included in the Bible. While Apocrypha books are part of the Catholic bible, they are not included in the Protestant bible due to contradictions with other scriptures. If a scripture used by a group participant seems questionable, compare it to the King James and Amplified versions.

Also, in a group setting, do not allow anyone to dominate the discussion. If one member talks too much, it will hinder others. Don't allow group members to challenge directly the answers of other group members. Keep in mind that the answers presented in the Leader's Guide, are not the final or only acceptable answers. These answers serve as a guide to direct the discussion and impart insight.

If you are using this study for your personal study time, then read the summary, scripture referenced in the Study Question section and then answer the questions. Make sure that you read and study the scriptures used in the Study. After you have completed the Study Question section, then read the Leader's Guide and compare your answers to those in the Leader's Guide.

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About Us

South Pacific Christian Ministries is a Non-Denomination Missions Oriented Ministry that sprang out of a small tourist focused church in Kailua-Kona, Hawaii. After 16 years serving as the Senior Pastor the LORD redirected our steps from the little chapel by the sea to the small island communities of the South Pacific.

Our Vision is to bring the living water to the small islands of the South Pacific; a vision summed up in the Hawaiian phrase Ke Ola Wai, which means the living water. Ke Ola Wai encompassing our greatest spiritual and physical need, pure spiritual and physical water.

Our Mission is to meet the spiritual and physical needs of the people who live on the small islands of the South Pacific that can only be reached by boat. To bring the Gospel of Jesus Christ to their shores, assisting local Pastors, providing Bible Training for believers and conducting outreaches to draw in non-believers. To provide gravity fed, family sized, reverse osmosis water filters; emergency medical supplies; medical services; and disaster response training.

Summary

A common saying in the Church is "I'm just a sinner saved by Grace" or "Just a worm". These statements define how believers view themselves. We will explore the truth of these statements in this study; along with how a believer's self view impacts their relationship with God.



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Leaders Guide

A foundation truth from God's Word, is that every human being has sinned. Without Christ, no one can qualify for eternal life. People are born into sin, because of the sin of Adam. There is not a single person above the age of accountability who has not committed multiple sins throughout their life. Children are not held accountable for sin.

Romans 3:23

23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

Romans 5:8-12

8 But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

9 Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.

10 For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.

11 And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement.

12 Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:

Question

- 1) Are you currently a sinner saved by Grace?
 - No

It is a truth that before we accepted Jesus Christ as our LORD and SAVIOR we were sinners. It is through God's Grace and the faith of Jesus Christ that we have salvation. It is a true statement that every one who is a believer was at one point a sinner. It is also true that we who believe were saved by God's Grace. What we once were does not define who we are now. For example, an adult was once a child. Having been a child does not make the adult a child now. Having been a sinner who was saved by grace does not make that person a sinner saved by grace now.

Galatians 3:6-9

6 Even as Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.

7 Know ye therefore that they which are of faith, the same are the children of Abraham.

8 And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the gospel unto Abraham, saying, In thee shall all nations be blessed.

9 So then they which be of faith are blessed with faithful Abraham.

Abraham accepted what God said as fact without question. There were times when he did not understand how or why, but he still accepted it as fact. Even when God told him that his wife would have a son in her old age, he accepted it as a fact. He did not understand how it could happen, but he did not doubt what God said.

Abraham did not allow his circumstance nor his eyes to cause him to doubt God's Word. God said it and that was all he required to believe. He looked beyond that natural to the reality of God; a God who spoke and created the universe.

In response to Abraham's faith, his trust in God's Word, God to granted him righteousness. Abraham did not earn that gift from God. He did not earn the righteousness that was granted him. God's gift to Abraham was freely given. Just as our salvation is freely given to those who believe.



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Question

- 2) Why is it important to believe what God has said is true?
- A lack of faith is a lack of trust in God. Failure to accept His Word as truth means everything, including your salvation is subject to question. You also declare that He is not worthy of your trust.

Genesis 17:3-5

- 3 And Abram fell on his face: and God talked with him, saying,
4 As for me, behold, my covenant is with thee, and thou shalt be a father of many nations.
5 Neither shall thy name any more be called Abram, but thy name shall be Abraham; for a father of many nations have I made thee.

Genesis 17:15-16

- 15 And God said unto Abraham, As for Sarai thy wife, thou shalt not call her name Sarai, but Sarah shall her name be.
16 And I will bless her, and give thee a son also of her: yea, I will bless her, and she shall be a mother of nations; kings of people shall be of her.

Question

- 3) Why did God rename Abram and Sarai?
- To change who they were

God renamed Abram to Abraham. Abram means “high father”, but Abraham means “father of a multitude”. He also renamed Abram’s wife from Sarai to Sarah. Sarai means “female captain or steward”. Sarah means “lady, princess, queen”. God spoke and redefined Abram to be the father of a multitude. He redefined Abraham’s wife to be a woman of royalty, some one to be honored. By renaming them, He changed their view of themselves.

Abraham immediately began to refer to his wife as Sarah, not Sarai. God redefined them and Abraham acted accordingly. God’s Words did not just give them hope and a better view of themselves, He changed who they were and set out to bring that about. When God spoke, Abram only had a the child of a servant for an heir. A barren woman was looked down upon during that time. Abram, clearly did not see her that way, but his view and words would only lessen the sting of her barrenness. According to God’s Word, Abraham had a son named Isaac less than a year later. Over time, through a few generations, Abraham became the father of a multitude.

Question

- 4) Why is what we speak important?
- We were created in His image. Our words have power of life and death. By our words we loose that which is of God or that which is of the enemy.

Proverbs 18:20-21

- 20 A man's belly shall be satisfied with the fruit of his mouth; and with the increase of his lips shall he be filled.
21 Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof.

We have the power of life and death in our words. What we say creates or destroys. What we say will build and provide or tear down and steal. Abraham calling Sarai by her new name imparted a new image for her that enabled her to become all that God had said.



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Genesis 32:28

28 And he said, Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel: for as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and hast prevailed.

The Hebrew word for “Jacob” means heel-catcher, supplanter. In contrast, the Hebrew word Israel means “he will rule as God”. Consider the difference between the meaning of the words. By their meanings, God renamed the “supplanter” to “one who will rule as God”. The name Jacob imparted a negative image every time someone used his name. Israel, on the other hand, imparted a significant positive image because it came from God.

Isaiah 55:10-11

10 For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater:

11 So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

By renaming Abram, Sarai and Jacob, God transformed them into something new. His word went forth and changed them into what He had said. Prior to His renaming them, they were not what He declared they were. When He renamed them He changed who they were and how they saw themselves.

Names and self images are important. How we see ourselves dictates how we respond to God and the depth of our relationship with Him.

2 Corinthians 5:17

17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

If Jesus Christ is your LORD and SAVIOR, then you are in Christ. If you are in Christ, then you are a new creature. The Greek word for “creature” means original formation, literally or figuratively a creation or creature. When you made Jesus your LORD and SAVIOR then God created a new spirit in you. He made you something new. Who you once were no longer exist!

Question

- 5) In what way does a generational sin, sins of those in our family line, impact us as believers?
- We are made righteous in Christ and are new creations, therefore that which is past has no impact on us.

That means your past sins, your family’s past sins, can no longer be applied to you. Generational sin only applies if you are an unbeliever. The enemy may try to lure us into a generational sin. Just because a family member sinned does not mean we will or must. The enemy may declare that we are cursed due to a generational sin. The enemy has no authority to apply generational curse upon you because we are made righteousness in Jesus Christ.

Proverbs 26:2

2 As the bird by wandering, as the swallow by flying, so the curse causeless shall not come.

Every generational curse is causeless because we have been transformed into a new creation and made righteous by His blood. Sin has no hold on you unless you allow it by accepting the enemies lies.

Romans 8:15

15 For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.



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While we may be physically still part of an earthly family, we are no longer connected in the spirit to that family. God has made us part of His family. Spiritually we are a new creation, a new vessel, not the old vessel of sin.

The statement “just a sinner saved by Grace” is therefore a lie. You were a sinner. You were saved by Grace. In the instant that you accepted Jesus Christ as your LORD and SAVIOR you became a new creation. You were also brought into God’s family. The only accurate statement to describe who you are now is “I am a child of the Most High God!”.

What about the phrase “just a worm”? To refer to yourself as a worm is not an example of humility, but a lack of understanding of God’s Word. What is more, it insults God, because of the price He paid for your salvation. You were never a worm, regardless of how good or evil you were. You were created in God’s image and He is not a worm.

John 3:16

16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

God gave what was the most important thing to Him so that you could have everlasting life with Him. Jesus endured the cross, died, went to hell and rose again, because you are that important to God. Considering the price paid, you are the most valuable thing in the universe. You are certainly not a worm. False humility, demeans who you are and insults God.

Hebrews 4:14-16

14 Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession.

15 For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.

16 Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

Someone who sees themselves as just a “sinner saved by grace” or “a worm” will not believe that they have the right to come before God. Just as a servant will not believe that they can ask for a need or desire to be met. A child will ask regardless of how they have behaved. When you understand and fully believe that you are made righteous by the Blood of Jesus Christ, then you know that you can come boldly before God.

When you do not see yourself as worthy, then you will not seek His face for fear of rejection. But when you know that you are loved by God and have been made righteous by Jesus, then there is no fear keeping you from Him.

See yourself, define yourself, as a child of the Most High God, made righteous by the Blood and Faith of Jesus Christ! You are a cherished part of God’s family, so act accordingly.



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Study Questions

Answer the following questions, using scripture to support your answers where appropriate. The goal is to gain understanding, not to adhere to short, pat answers. Don't limit yourself to the space on the page between questions. Write your answers on a separate sheet if necessary. Do not include answers based on the books that are not part of the Bible. The opinions of man and blending the works of man, in particular false books, will hinder your walk and understanding.

Read

Romans 3:23

Isaiah 55:10-11

John 3:16

Romans 5:8-12

2 Corinthians 5:17

Hebrews 4:14-16

Genesis 17:3-5

Proverbs 26:2

Genesis 17:15-16

Proverbs 18:20-21

Questions

- 1) Are you currently a sinner saved by Grace?
- 2) Why is it important to believe what God has said is true?
- 3) Why did God rename Abram and Sarai?
- 4) Why is what we speak important?
- 5) In what way does a generational sin, sins of those in our family line, impact us as believers?