



House Church Study Questions Based on the SAC Sermon on June 13, 2021

Sermon: The Nature and Purpose of Church
Text: Ephesians 4:17-24

Gathering Guidelines

-Watch intro video for this week.

<https://www.strasbourgalliance.ca/sac-house-church-videos.html>

Take some time to worship

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SW8EA7DEQ2M> I Surrender All

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bLZhQHUQQFE> Amazing Grace

Read

Ephesians 4:17-24

Discussion Questions

Icebreaker Question: Imagine that you had one superpower. What would you want it to be and why?

Last Week's Mission

Talk about what you learned about your spiritual gifts.

Question #1: Read verses 17 and 18 again.

It says that the Gentiles are darkened in their thinking because they are separated from God. This means those non-Jews that have not yet accepted Jesus as Saviour of their lives.

Distance from God means not being able to think in ways that are pleasing to God.

Do you agree with this statement and how do you think this might affect how you treat people in the world around you?

Question #2: Read verse 19 again.

“Given themselves over to sensuality. . .” is like saying that there is a desire for more and more things that this world provides (the world of the senses). There is a longing deep in people’s hearts that needs to be filled.

Jesus promises that he will meet our deep longings and he asks that we train our gaze on him. Read Colossians 3:1-3 and talk about what it says there.

Question #3: Read verse 20.

It says that we didn’t find our way to Jesus through our best worldly thinking. We needed help to find our way to Jesus in order to be saved.

John 16:5-8 talks about the role the Holy Spirit plays in bringing us to Jesus.

Romans 10:9-10 is also an important element in coming to know Jesus.

Do these teachings make sense to you? Is it something you would share with someone else you know?

Question #4: Read verses 22-24

It says that we are to “put off the old self” and then to “put on the new self”.

The old self are the ‘worldly’ things that we can be tempted to live in apart from Jesus.

For example: God created sex. It is meant to be a wonderful and blessed thing to experience.

A worldly way to approach sex is to pursue it for selfish pleasure outside of God’s boundaries. So that would mean having sex outside of marriage.

But putting on the ‘new self’ in this sense means that people who desire to live in obedience to God’s teaching can enjoy the good things that He provides, like sex, but within marriage.

We put on the new self when we desire and live in the things that God teaches and provides.

Can you think of other examples of how we can be tempted to live in the 'old self' instead of living in the 'new self' that Jesus has given to us?

Question #5: Read Colossians 1:15-17

It says ". . .all things were created by him and for him."

Think about all the things that Jesus has given you to enjoy, and he wants to share in that enjoyment with you.

What is one thing that you enjoy in life?

Do you think you could invite Jesus to join you in that thing?

Invitation and Mission for this week

In your own group discuss what you would like to pursue as your mission for this next week.

Pray for each other