

July Sunday School Discussion Questions

July 3 - Week 26 – Questions to Consider

Fun Small Group Warm Up Question:

What is your favorite church song to sing?

New Testament

Romans 9 ~ Romans 10 ~ Romans 11 ~ Romans 12 ~ Romans 13

1. What was a verse or passage that impacted you this week? What was a verse or section that was particularly difficult? What do you think about Romans 9? Is it easy to understand? Do you think it could be one of the most difficult chapters in the Bible? Why or why not?
2. Paul starts Romans 9 & 10 (Romans 9:1-2 & 10:1) with a description of his love for the lost (“my heart’s desire and pray to God for them is that they may be saved”) and heartbreak over lostness (“great sorrow and unceasing anguish”). Why should we feel similarly? How do we regain such compassion if we find ourselves hardened towards the lost?
3. What does God mean when He says “not who are descended from Israel belong to Israel”? (Romans 8:6). How can we tell if we or someone else is truly saved?
4. What is God’s purpose in election (Romans 9:11,16-17)? Why might we struggle on this topic of God’s sovereign choice in salvation? How does God respond to our struggles on this subject (Romans 9:19-24)?
5. After Romans 9, God speaks very specifically about salvation in Romans 10. How does it answer the question of how someone is saved? (Romans 10:9-10) How is this helpful in leading someone to Christ?
6. Does Romans 10:13 (“everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved”) mean that they just need to pray a “salvation prayer” or make a simple statement of faith? What does a sincere, authentic confession or repentance and belief look like over time?
7. Read Romans 10:14-15. How does this inspire you to be more intentional as a witness here & to the “ends of the earth” (Acts 1:8)? What does it mean that “faith comes by hearing” (Romans 10:17)? How did God save you from your sin?
8. What does “chosen by grace” mean (Romans 11:5)? How does Romans 8:30 & Ephesians 2:8 help us understand this phrase better? How does it affect you to know that God chosen you? How do we stay humble and “not be arrogant” in regard to our salvation (Romans 11:18, 20)?
9. Why is it important to see both the “kindness” and the “severity” of God? (Romans 11:22). What does it look like to “continue in his kindness”? Why is Romans 11:36 a great reminder of our purpose in life?
10. What leads to us being “conformed to this world” (Romans 12:2)? How do we resist that process? How can we know God’s will (Romans 12:2)?
11. Why are we so predisposed towards prideful selfishness (Romans 12:3)? How does seeing the varying gifts within the body of Christ humble and unify us? (Romans 12:4-7)
12. Read the instructions of Romans 12:9-21. What did you need to hear for your own situation in life? Practically, what can we do better to “if possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all” (Romans 12:18)?
13. Why is being “subject” to the governing authorities so difficult for us yet so important to God? (Romans 13:1-7)? How can we improve at this? What temptations do we face?
14. What does it look like to “make no provision for the flesh” (Romans 13:14)?

General Discussion Questions

- *Context Questions:* What was something new you noticed this week? What impacted you the most? Why?
- *Application Questions:* How do you need to respond to and apply these truths to your life? (Is there a sin to avoid? A command to obey? An example to follow? A prayer to offer? A truth to remember or memorize? An attitude to change? A teaching to share?)

July Sunday School Discussion Questions

July 10 - Week 27 – Questions to Consider

Fun Small Group Warm Up Question:

What did you dream about being when you grew up?
If you had to switch jobs, what would be your dream job today?

New Testament

Romans 14, 15, & 16 ~ 1 Corinthians 1 & 2

1. Do you enjoy social media? Why or why not? Do you struggle with it? How? How might Romans 14:1 help us in handling social media better? How does Romans 14:1-12 help us to be more gracious towards other believers on issues that are debatable?
2. How does Romans 14:13-23 help to “walk in love”? What are some things we might feel Christian “freedom” to do that we could instead avoid in order not to be a “stumbling block or hindrance” to the faith of another believer? What might it look like to pursue “what makes for peace and for mutual upbuilding”?
3. How is Romans 15:4 a good reminder of the important of Bible reading and listening?
4. What parts of Christ’s life and death particularly impact you and strengthen your faith? (Romans 15:8)
5. Why should the Christian life be filled with joy, peace, and hope? (Romans 15:13)
6. Paul’s ambition was to “preach the Gospel” to those “who have never been told of him” (Romans 15:20-21)? Who in your life do you think may have never heard the Gospel clearly? Where might God be calling you to go or give or pray to tell others who have not hear the Gospel news?
7. Paul had hoped to travel to Spain (Romans 15:24) but never made it there. Is there somewhere you have tried to go but haven’t made it there yet?
8. Paul describes a lot of his fellow workers in Romans 16. Which description stands out to or inspires you?
9. Why do you think Paul concludes with such a significant warning as in Romans 16:17-18. What does it look like to be “wise as to what is good and innocent as to what is evil” (Romans 16:19)? Why is Romans 16:20 such a needed reminder and encouragement? What do you like about the final statements of Romans 16:25-27?
10. How would you describe yourself in one sentence? How does Paul introduce himself in 1 Corinthians 1:1?
11. What is Paul thankful for (1 Corinthians 1:4-9)? What are you most thankful for?
12. Why do you think Paul prioritizes church unity (1 Corinthians 1:10-17)? What was dividing the churches then? What churches divide us now? Do you think it is dangerous to brag and boast about your denomination’s, church’s, or pastor’s name? Why or why not? Why could an “eloquent” (1 Corinthians 1:17) preacher with “lofty speech or wisdom” (1 Corinthians 2:1) actually be dangerous to our spiritual health? (1 Corinthians 2:5)
13. How do you see the Bible as “folly to those who are perishing” today? (1 Corinthians 1:18). How is 1 Corinthians 1:25 a humbling and important teaching?
14. Why are you the best person to describe yourself to others? Why is having the Holy Spirit essential to properly understanding the Bible (1 Corinthians 2:10-16)?

General Discussion Questions

- *Context Questions:* Who is writing this? Who is it being written to? When? Why? What type of writing is this? How does this matter to my understanding of the meaning of these chapters?
- *Application Questions:* How do you need to respond to and apply these truths to your life? (Is there a sin to avoid? A command to obey? An example to follow? A prayer to offer? A truth to remember or memorize? An attitude to change? A teaching to share?)

July Sunday School Discussion Questions

July 17 - Week 28 – Questions to Consider

Use these questions for personal prayer, reflection, study, journaling, or small group discussion.

Fun Small Group Warm Up Question:

If someone gave you \$1,000,000 today, what would you do with it?

New Testament

1 Corinthians 3 ~ 1 Corinthians 4 ~ 1 Corinthians 5 ~ 1 Corinthians 6 ~ 1 Corinthians 7

1. How do babies' eating habits change as they grow up? What would it be like to see a teenager or adult still eating baby food? Why does God use this metaphor to help us see the importance of maturing as a Christian? How does our spiritual diet change as we grow up as Christians? (1 Corinthians 3:1-3)
2. What was the evidence of the Corinthians' spiritual immaturity? Why is it similarly immature to associate your spiritual success with the name of a denomination, church, or pastor? (1 Corinthians 3:4-9)
3. What would make you feel successful and accomplished in life? In the midst of our "life successes" why do we all need the reminder of 1 Corinthians 3:7?
4. How does our location affect our behavior? For better and worse? How can the truth of 1 Corinthians 3:16 change our behavior as individuals? As a church?
5. How do we form opinions? How can spiritual opinions be dangerous? (1 Corinthians 4:6)
6. How was the life of an apostle described in 1 Corinthians 4:8-13? How do many Christians live today across the world? How do most American Christians live? What are the privileges, responsibilities, and opportunities of wealthier Christians and churches?
7. What sort of sexual immorality defiles our churches today? What was the solution to sexual immorality within the church of Corinth? (1 Corinthians 5:1-5) Why is outside the church referred to as Satan's territory?
8. What was the ultimate hope in church discipline? Do our churches do good in church discipline today? Why or why not? How could we do better? For more verses on church discipline see: <https://www.trustworthyword.com/church-discipline>
9. Although Christians may not go to court frequently (1 Corinthians 6:1-11), why might this passage be helpful for Christians to hear about "disputing" on social media?
10. How is sexual sin more serious than other sins? (1 Corinthians 6:18-20). How can we do a better job "fleeing" from sexual immorality today?
11. What counter-cultural truths does 1 Corinthians 7 offer for marriage, singleness, divorce, remarriage?
 - a. For more on singleness & dating see: <https://www.trustworthyword.com/dating>
 - b. For more on marriage see: <https://www.trustworthyword.com/what-does-the-bible-say-about-marriage-roles>
 - c. For more on divorce and remarriage see: <https://www.trustworthyword.com/what-does-the-bible-say-about-divorce-and-remarriage>
 - d. For more on parenting in a sexualized culture see: <https://www.trustworthyword.com/carl>

July Sunday School Discussion Questions

General Discussion Questions

- What do these passages teach us about our enemies' attacks (deceptions, distractions, discouragement, and temptations)? How can we better resist these attacks?
- *Application Questions:* How do you need to respond to and apply these truths to your life? (Is there a sin to avoid? A command to obey? An example to follow? A prayer to offer? A truth to remember or memorize? An attitude to change? A teaching to share?)

July Sunday School Discussion Questions

July 24 - Week 29 – Questions to Consider

Fun Small Group Warm Up Question:

If you had to relocate and move far away, where would it be?

New Testament

1 Corinthians 8 ~ 1 Corinthians 9 ~ 1 Corinthians 10 ~ 1 Corinthians 11 ~ 1 Corinthians 12

1. Although food being sacrificed to idols may not be an issue in most churches today (it can be in some non-Western churches), what debatable issues can divide and distract churches where you live? What truth stands out to you in 1 Corinthians 8 on how to build and maintain unity among Christian brothers and sisters?
2. Paul references apostles and believers having the right to have a “believing wife” (1 Corinthians 9:5, which connects to 1 Corinthians 7:39). Why is genuine Christian faith the one prerequisite for a Christian in marriage? What struggles will come if there is no common faith in Christ?
3. While some churches and denominations practice “tent making” (i.e. pastors don’t get a salary but work in a secular field as Paul did in tent making), how does 1 Corinthians 9 make the case for paid Gospel ministry? What are the dangers and challenges that come with paying pastors and church staffs? What are the advantages to paying pastors and staffs? What are the advantages of pastors and staffs serving voluntarily or part-time?
4. What spiritual acts of discipline help us serve the Lord well (1 Corinthians 9:24-27)?
5. Read 1 Corinthians 10:6-13. What forms of idolatry (prioritizing something or someone more than God, pursuing pleasure and avoiding suffering outside of God) do we see today? Why do we need the exhortation of 1 Corinthians 10:12?
6. What do you run from? Why? Why are we told to “flee from idolatry” (1 Corinthians 10:14)? How do we practically do that?
7. How can you apply 1 Corinthians 10:31 to your daily life?
8. Can we say the same as Paul in 1 Corinthians 11:1? In what ways? In what ways can we improve?
9. God has created men and women equal in value and worth but different in role and functions in the church, family, and world. Even though we are created and purposed differently, what are some ways we need each other and compliment one another? (1 Corinthians 11:11)
10. Why does the world work against God’s definitions and purpose in gender? Why should the church submit to God’s created plan for gender in our appearances and service? (1 Corinthians 11:14-16)
11. Why is the Lord’s Supper so serious? What does God command us to do in how we prepare to take it? (1 Corinthians 11:23-34)
12. What is the purpose of spiritual gifts? What are some of your spiritual gifts? How does 1 Corinthians 12 help us to understand spiritual gifts and our purpose as a church family? How can we do better at using the gifts that the Lord has given us? How does this chapter challenge you? What questions does it raise that make you want to learn more?

General Discussion Questions

- What did you learn about humanity or yourself in the readings this week? About your identity, character or purpose as a Christ-follower?

July Sunday School Discussion Questions

- *Application Questions:* How do you need to respond to and apply these truths to your life? (Is there a sin to avoid? A command to obey? An example to follow? A prayer to offer? A truth to remember or memorize? An attitude to change? A teaching to share?)

July Sunday School Discussion Questions

July 31 - Week 30 – Questions to Consider

Use these questions for personal prayer, reflection, study, journaling, or small group discussion.

Warm Up Question:

What is your favorite breakfast food?

New Testament

1 Corinthians 13 ~ 1 Corinthians 14 ~ 1 Corinthians 15 ~ 1 Corinthians 16 ~ 2 Corinthians 1

1. Can you remember any Scriptures used specifically at your wedding? At a wedding you attended? Why is 1 Corinthians 13 such a common wedding passage? What is your favorite part of 1 Corinthians 13?
2. Why is love so hard? Why must love be paired with truth (1 Corinthians 13:1)? Why is truth without love (legalism) so dangerous? Why is love without truth (permissiveness) so dangerous?
3. Why are prophecy and tongues (languages) dangerous yet important (1 Corinthians 14)? Where have you seen false or fake prophecies and giftings? Where have you seen faithful practicing and uses of God's giftings? What is the purpose of spiritual gifts (1 Corinthians 14:12)? How has God gifted you specifically?
4. Why does God give attention to orderly worship in 1 Corinthians 14:26-40? Have you ever seen a church service be interrupted or distracted? How? Why does Satan like to create chaos in churches and worship services?
5. How is 1 Corinthians 15:3-8 a good summary of the Gospel? Why is it so important and urgent that we "work hard" so that people can hear and believe the Gospel? (1 Corinthians 15:11)
6. What opinions about the "afterlife" have you heard before? Why do you think many are confused on this topic? What passages or truths have been helpful to you in understanding Heaven and Hell? (1 Corinthians 15)
 - a. See: <https://www.trustworthyword.com/what-does-the-bible-say-about-heaven>
 - b. See: <https://www.trustworthyword.com/what-does-the-bible-say-about-hell>
7. Why are money and giving touchy topics in churches? Should it be? (1 Corinthians 16:1-4). What truths have been helpful for you to learn about money, budgeting, and giving?
 - a. See: <https://www.trustworthyword.com/what-does-the-bible-say-about-money>
8. What do you like about 1 Corinthians 16:13-14 as a simple charge and reminder for life?
9. How has God comforted you in the midst of your suffering? How has that comfort been a ministry opportunity in your life? (2 Corinthians 1:3-7)

General Discussion Questions

- What can you learn about God from these passages? His work? His character? How can this help you grow in your trust of Him?
- *Application Questions:* How do you need to respond to and apply these truths to your life? (Is there a sin to avoid? A command to obey? An example to follow? A prayer to offer? A truth to remember or memorize? An attitude to change? A teaching to share?)