

FAC Small Group Questions

Sunday Sermon – April 30, 2023

Icebreaker opening question options:

- What summer activity are you starting to look forward to now that we are almost in the month of May?
- Which comes more naturally for you, loving God or loving people, or neither? Why?

Romans – In the Grip of Grace- Read Romans 13: 8-14

1. Chapter 12 is a distinct shift in the book of Romans. What does it look like to live out Romans 12:1?

- What are the “patterns of this world” that 12:2 refers to? How does your life look different than a nonbeliever’s life who follows the patterns of this world?
- Most of this chapter is about lives that show evidence of sacrifice in relationships. What do we learn about loving God from this chapter from this chapter?

2. Chapter 13 chapter talks much about submission to authorities. What are the reasons it gives as to why we should submit to authorities? How does a strong view of God’s sovereignty impact the ability to submit to authorities? What are some areas where this submission is difficult or challenging to you?

3. Chapter 14 is addressing specific issues that are causing division in the Roman church, but that are not essential to doctrinally sound belief. What are nonessential issues that cause division in churches today? What do we learn from this section about how we should respond to those issues?

- What issues in the church (practical or theological) cause you frustration? What issues are you likely to make a big deal about that are *not* essential? What do you learn from this chapter?
- Cite some contemporary examples of how a stronger believer’s actions can put a stumbling block in the path of a weaker believer. What should the stronger believer’s response be?

4. The opening two verses of chapter 15 tell us as Christians we have an obligation to not “please ourselves” but to focus on pleasing our neighbors. What is the reasoning Paul gives for that in the opening paragraph of this chapter?

5. This brings our Romans overview series to a close. What are one or two big take-aways from this series for you?

Pray for each other as a group, using the discussion you have had as a springboard to prayer.