

**Pastor John Lynch of Trueface Ministries**

Two Roads: Trusting God / Pleasing God

2 Corinthians 5:17 - 21

**Life Group Discussion Questions – January 26, 2020**

**Hebrews 11:6** *And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him.*

**QUICK REVIEW**

1. Last week Pastor Phil explained the significance of textual indicators. What happens to our interpretation or our understanding of Biblical narratives when we fail to recognize or ignore these indicators? What are some of the differences between Biblical narratives and Biblical poetry?
2. In Jonah 1:17 and 4:6-8 (NASB), the word “appointed” is used four times. In other versions of the Bible, the words prepared, provided and sent are used instead. What is the common denominator of these four synonyms? Which one do you think is the most accurate? Explain.

**MY STORY**

1. Describe a time when you got serious about dealing with a sin issue. Did this work to enhance or depreciate your fellowship with God? Are you still prone to “doing something about this issue?” How can it ultimately be made right in your eyes and God’s?
2. How does desiring to live a life that is primarily pleasing to God, make you the initiator of this idea? Where does this leave God in the process? Where does this leave others in your life?

**GOING DEEP**

1. How does our sin nature create an inability to recognize or receive grace from God? Do you know anyone who lives a life of faith based in grace? How do they encourage you to do the same?
2. Read Romans 7:15-18 and 8:3. How does our preoccupation with dealing with our sin keep us anxious about sin, instead of being preoccupied with who God says we are as the basis for dealing with our sin?
3. Living a self-centered life is an obstacle to living a life of grace. We are hindered from the life God wants us to live when we resist Him. Other obstacles to grace are the schemes of the adversary and the allure of the world. Discuss how each of the following passages can be deployed in overcoming these obstacles:

- Mark 8:34-35
- John 14:21
- Romans 6:4-8
- Romans 13:14
- Ephesians 6:10-18
- James 5:16

**PUTTING IT TOGETHER:**

1. What do you think are some of the challenges to living out each point?
2. Which of the above teaching points are most important for you to remember?

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