

VISION

SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

EAST ABBOTSFORD CAMPUS

OCTOBER 13, 2019

INFO AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Have you heard about Northview's Leadership Conference, happening October 18 and 19 at the Downes Road Campus? Anyone and everyone who serves at Northview is invited to attend! For more information visit northview.org/leadership2019. This event is free, and there is lots of room available. Don't forget a lunch on Saturday. No need to register!
- There is a Child Dedication class happening at the Downes Road Campus (for families from the Downes Road and East Abbotsford Campuses) on October 19. Child Dedications will take place on November 10. For more information and to register, visit northview.org/child-dedications
- We are hosting our first ever New to Northview event at the East Abbotsford Campus on Sunday, October 27. If you are new to our church, please join us during Connect Time (10:15-11:00am) for a chance to get to know some people, as well as hear from Pastors Greg, Thaleia, and Jeff.

RESOURCES FOR ROMANS

Suggested Devotional / Personal Bible Study Resources:

Romans For You (Tim Keller): A 2 Volume set
www.thegoodbook.com/romans-for-you-set

Commentaries:

R.C. Sproul, *Romans: An Expositional Commentary*, 2009.

Douglas Moo,
The Letter to the Romans (New International Commentary on the New Testament, 2018).

Douglas Moo,
Romans (The NIV Application Commentary Book 6)

LEADER NOTES

Suggested Timing for a 2 hour meeting:

Connection: 30 Minutes (visiting / snacks / announcements / ice breakers)

Content: 30 Minutes (Observation and Interpretation questions):

Commission: 10-15 minutes (Application questions)

Care: 15-30 minutes (Sharing and Prayer)

Connection: 15-30 minutes (visiting / snacks)

LEADING SERMON-BASED DISCUSSIONS:

- Read the scripture passage(s) together as a group.
- Direct people back to the text if they are going on rabbit trails or talking about opinions and speculation, by asking, "Where do you see that in the text? What answer does the text provide for that question?"
- As you transition to prayer time, pray through the issues and ideas that the text brought up.

ROMANS SERMON SERIES

Our Fall Sermon Series in Romans is highly practical! In Romans 1-11 Paul provides a theological framework for the Christian Faith. Now, in the final section of this letter, he gives the church in Rome specific examples of how this faith should be lived out.

Benefits of this series: It will feel highly practical for all of your group members. Romans 12-16 will force them to reflect on how their faith impacts their everyday life.

Potential pitfalls of this series: It is easy to fall into moralism and legalism when we focus on what we should and should not do if we are Christians. Keep this in mind! The sermon discussion questions will aim to remind us of the gospel truths behind each command.

SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

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Observation

This section is aimed at helping people observe the details of the text: what is written, what words or ideas are repeated and emphasized, the text's structure and how this text fits into the wider context of the book of Romans.

1. Acts 2 records Peter's first sermon.
Read Acts 2:37-41 together as a group. How did the people respond to his teaching?
 - **Cut to the heart (v 37)**
 - **Asked what they should do (v 37)**
 - **Those who accepted his message were baptized (v 41)**
 - **About 3000 were added to their number that day (v 41)**
2. The Church began as a result of this sermon!
Read Acts 2:42-47 together as a group. According to this passage, what practices marked the early church? What did they regularly do?
 - **Devoted to the Apostles' teaching, fellowship, breaking of bread, and to prayer (v 42)**
 - **Filled with awe and wonder (v 43)**
 - **Had everything in common (v 44)**
 - **Sold property and possessions to meet others needs (v 45)**
 - **Met in the temple courts daily, and broke bread and ate together in their homes (v 46)**
 - **Praising God (v 47)**
3. How are these same things practiced at our church? What would characterize Northview if we were as "healthy" as that early church?
Various answers. Some of these things we do fairly well (eg. as a church we ARE devoted to the apostle's teaching - all of our sermons / bible studies are based on scripture not on people's opinions or self-help books, but some we could definitely improve. Talk about what that might look like).
4. Re-read verse 47. What is the result of the Church living in this way?
The Lord added to their number daily, those who were being saved.

Interpretation

This section is aimed at linking the current text to other texts or to the bigger biblical narrative. If you are running out of time, feel free to skip this section.

1. Read Hebrews 10:19-27 together as a group.
2. Hebrews 10:19-21 tells us true things about our new position in Christ. As a result of what Jesus has done, what commands does the author give Christians in 10:22-25?
 - **Let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and full assurance from faith. (v 22)**
 - **Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess. (v 23)**
 - **Let us consider how can spur one another on. (v 24)**
 - **Not give up meeting together. (v 25)**
3. Are these commands being made to individuals or to groups of people? How do you know?
The words "let us" indicate that this is corporate
3. How does the corporate nature of these commands challenge our North American Individualism? When are you tempted to "go it alone"? When do you realize you need others?
We are prone to look out for ourselves and think that faith is a private thing between us and God. Many people say they love God but hate the church. But we need each other if we are going to persevere!

Application

This section is aimed at helping people apply what we have read in the text to our lives. It is intended to foster more open-ended discussion as people connect the text to their everyday life, and reflect on how it changes the way they think and act.

1. How has being involved with other Christians in the local church helped you to persevere?
Various answers
2. Look back at the list of practices which marked the early church. How can we, as a community group, contribute to making Northview a healthier church SO that many people are saved? It is God who adds to our numbers (see Acts 2:47), but...
 - a. What can we do?
 - b. How should we pray?

Various answers