

The questions below are designed to be used by Saylorville Church Cell Groups as they meet during the week following the Sunday morning message at Saylorville. The intent is not for groups to answer every question, but for leaders to use the questions as a guide as they tailor the discussion to the needs of their unique group.

CONNECT WITH YOUR GROUP (10-15 MINUTES)

- The beginning of a new year causes us to make new commitments, pursue new goals, and resolve to be different. What kind of changes would you like to see in your life this year? How will you take steps to see those changes happen, as much as depends on you?

APPLY THE BIBLE (45-60 MINUTES)**Intro:**

- Read 2 Corinthians 11:1-6**
- In his message, Pastor Pat reminded us of **three key characteristics of Paul's vision**. What is your one thing from Sunday? What stuck out to you about what you heard (a new idea, an application, a challenge, a question, or a new way of thinking)?
- Before digging into the discussion, keep the following in mind:**
 - The primary way in which God speaks to us today is through the Bible, so we need to read it and know it.
 - The Bible, not our experience, is our final authority when it comes to whether or not something is truth.
 - God may choose to reveal Himself to us in any way He pleases, but He will not contradict Scripture.
 - In Paul's day, and in our own, visions and revelations were not the norm but the exception.
 - We are never commanded or even encouraged to seek visions and revelation from God.

#1 - Paul's vision was unexplainable (vs. 1-2)

- Paul point in this passage is not to boast about the vision God gave him, but to (1) boast about the Lord and (2) boast in his own weaknesses. How have you boasted like Paul over the past month?
- It's possible that God gave Paul a vision of heaven to prepare him for the suffering that Paul himself would go through (see Acts 9:16). How might your own view of God, of Christ, and of eternity encourage you during your times of trials and suffering on this earth?

#2 - Paul's vision was unknowable (vs. 3-4)

- Although Paul recognized that he did not totally understand what he was seeing, he rested in the fact that "God knows." Underline that important phrase in your Bible and then talk about a time in your life when you have struggled to believe that "God knows."
- Give some examples of how the fact that "God knows" actually changes the way you look at your family, your work, your budget, your country, your Cell Group, etc.

#3 - Paul's vision was untransferable (vs. 5-6)

- Verse 6 reminds us that Paul is not instructing us to pursue his experience, but to imitate his life. In what areas of your life would you be reluctant to tell someone else to imitate you?
- How can you take steps to change those areas so that you are more like Jesus this year?

PRAY FOR EACH OTHER (5-15 MINUTES)

- Pray that your group will read, love, and obey Scripture as our primary standard for living.

Jesus became weak in order to seek those who are meek.

