

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 (5 MINUTES)**

- On a scale of 1-10, how do you feel about snakes?
  - 1 = "Call me Indiana Jones." (Check out [this quick video](#) to see how Indiana feels about snakes.)
  - 10 = "I have a pet snake that sleeps under my pillow."

**APPLY THE BIBLE (25 MINUTES)****Intro:**

**A. Read Genesis 3:14-24.** God deals with sin and offers hope of salvation! On Sunday morning, Pastor Pat shared **three truths to give us hope in the midst of the terrible circumstances of sin.** 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)?

**#1 - You who exalt yourselves will be humbled (vs. 14)**

- A. God's act of condemning the serpent is forever a reminder that God humbles the proud. What is something that God has used, or is using to humble you?
- B. During his message, Pastor Pat reminded us that there's no way to be proud when we are kneeling before the cross. What are some specific ways this week that you will intentionally focus on, and respond to the cross?

**#2 - You who are outside of Christ, stand condemned, separated, and dead (vs. 15-19)**

- A. Enmity is the state or feeling of being actively opposed or hostile to someone or something. How were you actively opposed to Christ before your salvation? According to John 3:16-18, what did God do to remove that enmity?
- B. As a group, highlight one or two of the following results of sin, and note how God has specifically given you hope in the midst sin's consequences: Enmity (vs. 15), Pain (vs. 16), Marital Tension (vs. 16), Frustration (vs. 17), Death (vs. 19), Separation from God (vs. 22-24).

**#3 - The hater of your sin is still the lover of your soul (vs. 15, 21)**

- A. God has already defeated Satan through Jesus. How might that reality help you this week as you face temptation to give into sin?
- B. Romans 16:20 says, "The God of peace will soon crush Satan under *your* (plural) feet." How can your Cell Group continue to help each other crush Satan every day?

**PRAY WITH EACH OTHER (30 MINUTES)**

- Use the prayer guide on the next page to respond to this passage and prepare for Easter.



## **MORE PEOPLE, MORE LIKE JESUS**

“Before we can act like Jesus, we have to think like Jesus. Reflecting on and studying Jesus’ priorities challenges us first to change our way of thinking. The priorities call us to see the world as Jesus sees it. When we begin to perceive our world as Jesus does, we will be motivated — even compelled — to act like Jesus, to cultivate the habits he molded.” - Christopher Maricle

## **WHAT DID JESUS THINK ABOUT PEOPLE? HOW DID HE SEE PEOPLE?**

- John 4 - The Woman At The Well
- John 8 - The Woman Caught In Adultery
- John 9 - The Man Born Blind
- John 10 - The Good Shepherd And His Sheep

## **WHAT PART DOES PRAYER PLAY IN REACHING LOST PEOPLE?**

- Oswald Chambers - “We tend to use prayer as a last resort, but God wants it to be our first line of defense. We pray when there's nothing else we can do, but God wants us to pray before we do anything at all.”
- E.M. Bounds - “Around us is a world lost in sin, above us is a God willing and able to save; it is ours to build the bridge that links heaven and earth, and prayer is the mighty instrument that does the work.”
- C.H. Spurgeon - “Until the gate of hell is shut upon a man, we must not cease to pray for him. And if we see him hugging the very doorposts of death, we must go to the mercy seat and beseech the arm of grace to pluck him from his dangerous position. While there is life there is hope.”

## **HOW SHOULD CHRISTIANS PRAY FOR THOSE WHO DON'T YET KNOW CHRIST?**

- Pray For Open Doors (Colossians 4:3) - “At the same time, pray also for us, that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ...”
- Pray With Faith (Mark 11:24) - “Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.”
- Pray What Seems Impossible (Mark 10:27) - “Jesus looked at them and said, ‘With man this is impossible, but not with God; all things are possible with God.’”
- Pray For Awakening (Matthew 13:15) - “For this people’s heart has become calloused; they hardly hear with their ears, and they have closed their eyes. Otherwise they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts and turn, and I would heal them.”
- Pray For Spiritual Escape (2 Timothy 2:26) - “...That they will come to their senses and escape from the trap of the devil, who has taken them captive to do his will.”

## **WHO WILL I PRAY FOR, INVEST IN, AND INVITE THIS WEEK?**

- Who’s on your Pi2 list right now?

## **PRAYING SCRIPTURE FOR SPECIFIC PEOPLE**

- Cut up and distribute the Scripture cards and pray Scripture for specific people on your Pi2 list.

