

CONNECT Group study questions for Oct. 28, 2018

Title: “Wake Up, Christian!”

Read Romans 13:8-11.

1. On Sunday Pastor Peppy offered us seven principles from Romans 13. The first six principles deal with our owing love to one another. This includes people we now and strangers, those we like and dislike, and those who like and dislike us. As we seek to apply love in this way consider the following:

-Why does Paul say that we owe a debt of love to others? Why is it important to have this perspective?

- What are some practical ways we can apply these principles to our lives as individuals and as a group? Why do we so often fail to love as we should? How can we remedy that? As you discuss this, avoid generalizations and focus on specific examples.

Read Romans 13:11-13.

2. After Paul’s discussion of love, he moves to a discussion of putting away the deeds of darkness. These deeds of darkness and the selfish motives behind them diminish our ability to love anyone (God included) other than ourselves and thus hold us back from loving as God requires. Consider the following questions in regard to Paul’s exhortation:

-Why do you think the list of “works of darkness” here runs the gamut from the “extreme” sin of orgies and sexual immorality to the more “everyday” sins of jealousy and quarreling?

-In a world in which pornography is available to us at a moment’s notice on our phones, how can we work hard as a church and as individuals to put off this “work of darkness”?

-In a world of social media and comment threads, how can we be the people who put off the “works of darkness” of being argumentative and jealous?

Read Romans 13:14.

3. Paul tells us that, along with putting off “works of darkness,” we are to put on Christ so that we won’t make any provision for the flesh.

-What is “putting on Christ”?

-How do we “put on Christ”?

-How does putting on Christ protect us from sin?