

Going Deeper Questions

Faithfulness

Ephesians 1:1-6

January 10, 2010

1. (cf. Ephesians 1:1) “Semper Fi” – Always Faithful. Who in your life has been faithful to you? How do you know that they have been faithful (i.e., what characteristics have you witnessed in them that help you to see that they are faithful)?

2. The first concept of being faithful in your outline is mentioned in Ephesians 1:2. How have you known God’s grace and peace in your life?
 - a. Jeremy shared about his grandpa being a man who gave people grace and peace. Have you known people like this? How are you at giving grace and peace? What does it take to be a person who gives it, and what role does God in our lives play?

3. We can be faithful because we have the Holy Spirit in us. How does the Holy Spirit help us to be faithful? How do we tap into His ability to change us, transform us, renew us to remain faithful? Read John 14:16-17; 16:7-15; Romans 12:1-2; Galatians 2:20 to get us started on seeing how we allow the Holy Spirit to change us.

4. Jeremy explained how the phrase “in love” goes with what is ahead of it better than what follows it. Read the other 5 times this phrase shows up in Ephesians and see if you can see why he interpreted it this way (Ephesians 3:17; 4:2, 15, 16; 5:2). What do all these verses help us to see about this practice of living “in love”?

5. Ephesians 1:5 speaks of adoption; so does Romans 8:15-17, 23 and Galatians 4:4-5; and it is implied in John 1:12-13. Talk about how that stirs your heart – being an adopted child of God. Are any of you adopted, or have adopted children? What makes adoption so special (or is it special)?

6. We sang a song after the sermon; the lyrics are, “Take my life and form it, take my mind—transform it, take my will—conform it to Yours, to Yours, oh Lord.” Is that your prayer? Is that what you long for? What gets in the way of that happening?