

C3 LEADERS' QUESTIONS

F2022-WEEK 6

10/9/22

Getting Started with a Warm-Up:

- Parable of the Good Samaritan:

“33 ‘Then a despised Samaritan came along, and when he saw the man, he felt compassion for him. 34 Going over to him, the Samaritan soothed his wounds with olive oil and wine and bandaged them. Then he put the man on his own donkey and took him to an inn, where he took care of him. 35 The next day he handed the innkeeper two silver coins, telling him, ‘Take care of this man. If his bill runs higher than this, I’ll pay you the next time I’m here.’” (Lk. 10:33-35 NLT)

What does this parable mean to you?

- Teaching about Love for Enemies:

43 ‘You have heard the law that says, ‘Love your neighbor’ and hate your enemy. 44 But I say, love your enemies! Pray for those who persecute you! 45 In that way, you will be acting as true children of your Father in heaven. For he gives his sunlight to both the evil and the good, and he sends rain on the just and the unjust alike. (Mt. 5:43-45 NLT)

Explain how Jesus’ statement changed your answer to the previous question?

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Getting Down to Business:

The following questions are following this format: Scripture/Observation, Application, and Prayer (SOAP).

1) Scripture/Observation:

- A. Read James 1:27. What stands out to you in this verse? Why do you think widows and orphans are highlighted specifically?

*"Pure and genuine religion in the sight of God the Father means caring for orphans and widows in their distress and refusing to let the world corrupt you".
(Jas. 1:27, NLT)*

26–27: TAMED TONGUE Only someone walking with God can have his tongue tamed. That person will also practise concern for orphans and widows and be careful not to be soiled by worldliness. (Bible Panorama commentary, accessed 10/6/22,

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=james+1&version=NLT>)

- B. Read Ps. 146:8-9. Why does God put such an emphasis on widows and orphans?

*8 The Lord opens the eyes of the blind.
The Lord lifts up those who are weighed down.
The Lord loves the godly.
9 The Lord protects the foreigners among us.
He cares for the orphans and widows,
but he frustrates the plans of the wicked. (Ps 146:8-9 NLT)*

V 8–9: DOINGS Six things are then listed that the Lord does. All of them encourage the psalmist and should encourage us. He opens blind eyes, raises up the downcast, loves the righteous, watches over strangers, relieves the fatherless and widows, and overturns the wicked. (Bible Panorama, accessed

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<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=ps+146&version=NKJV>)

C. Read 2 Timothy 4:7. What fight is Paul referring to?

"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, and I have remained faithful". (2 Tim. 4:7 NLT)

Note, First, The life of a Christian, but especially of a minister, is a warfare and a race, sometimes compared to the one in the scripture, and sometimes to the other. Secondly, It is a good fight, a good warfare; the cause is good, and the victory is sure, if we continue faithful and courageous. Thirdly, We must fight this good fight; we must fight it out, and finish our course; we must not give over till we are made more than conquerors through him who hath loved us, Rom. 8:37. Fourthly, It is a great comfort to a dying saint, when he can look back upon his past life and say with our apostle, "I have fought, etc. I have kept the faith, the doctrine of faith and the grace of faith." Towards the end of our days to be able to speak in this manner, what comfort, unspeakable comfort, will it afford! Let it then be our constant endeavour, by the grace of God, that we may finish our course with joy, Acts. 20:24. (Matthew Henry's Commentary, accessed 10/6/22, <https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2+tim+4&version=NLT>)

2) Application: Strictly speaking, an orphan is a child whose parents have died and a widow is a woman whose husband has died. But in the day and age that we live in is it reasonable to see those definitions expanded? If so, how? (Hint: children in foster care and women whose husbands have left them)

Now consider how you can minister to them?

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3) Prayer: As you pray to God, ask him for opportunities to serve others in your family, friends, co-workers, and fellow believers in Christ.

“For you have been called to live in freedom, my brothers and sisters. But don’t use your freedom to satisfy your sinful nature. Instead, use your freedom to serve one another in love”. (Gal. 5:13 NLT)