



Dgroup Discussion Guide for April 23, 2017

Do You Know Where You Are Going To?

In this world of confusion and trials, it can be devastating and overwhelming. . . making the right choice can be very difficult if we do not know where to base our decisions on. God, in His infinite wisdom left us the BIBLE for our guide. Basic Instructions Before Leaving Earth. If we want to go to heaven, we have to first familiarize ourselves with this book.

The Bible tells us in Isaiah 53:6 **All of us like sheep have gone astray, Each of us has turned to his own way; but the Lord has caused the iniquity of us all on to Him.** We are likened to sheep because like the sheep, we have all gone astray. But even if like the sheep we insist on going our own way, God has seen to it that we can be re-directed to return to Him. Luke 19:10 reassures us of this: **For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost.** But before we can be found, we have first to admit that we are lost. That we have gone astray and we need a Savior.

Jesus reassures us in John 14:1-6 **“Do not let your heart be troubled; ^[a]believe in God, believe also in Me. ²In My Father’s house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you.** The solution to all our confusion, anxiety and worry is God.

Whatever the condition of our heart is – whether we are troubled, distracted, anxious. . . Jesus assures us that as long as we believe in God and we believe in Him, we are assured of our place in heaven. Whether it is a room, a mansion, whatever the place is what really matters is that we will dwell in the presence of the Lord.

In the same way that Jesus assures us of our place in heaven, He also assures us that He will return John 14 continues to says . ³**If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself, that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴And you know the way where I am going.”⁵ Thomas *said to Him, “Lord, we do not know where You are going, how do we know the way?”⁶ Jesus *said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.**

The question is: How can I be assured of my place in heaven?

The bible gives us the answers too. **God loves us and desires a relationship with us.** John 3:16 says **For God so loved the world that He have His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish and have eternal life.** Jesus further assures us in John 10:10 that He has come so that we may live life to the full. This does not necessarily mean that we will be financially abundant, or that we will be free from sickness or trials but rather Jesus assures us that if we have Him in our life, we will be able to overcome all things.

But we cannot experience this relationship because **Man is separated from God because of sin.** Romans 3:23 **For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.** And Romans 6: 23 says **For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

There is an eternal punishment for sin. Revelation 21:8 says **But the cowardly, the unbelieving, the vile, the murderers, the sexually immoral, those who practice magic arts, the idolaters and all liars – their place will be in the fiery lake of burning sulfur. This is the second death.**

We have to remember that **God's standards are not Man's standards.** We cannot compare ourselves to others, instead we should see ourselves in the light of the holiness of God. Because no matter what we do we can never measure up. James 2:10 ***For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it.*** That is why it was necessary for Jesus to die for us. It is only by His sacrifice that we become worthy. 1 Peter 2:24 ***He Himself bore our sins in His body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed.***

We are incapable of paying for our own sins that is why **We all need the Grace of God.** Ephesians 2:8-10 ***For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift from God – not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.*** Even the faith to believe comes from God.

We all need the Grace of God. John 3:17-18 ***For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through Him. He who believes in Him is not judged; he who does not believe has been judged already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.*** We have all been judged to eternal death, it was only by the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross that we have hope for eternal life. We will never be worthy of God's eternal glory was it not for Jesus paying our debt on the cross.

This is **God's assurance.** 1 John 5:11-13 ***And this is the testimony : God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has life, and he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life.*** God does not operate in doubt. He operates on certainty. That is why we can be assured of our salvation IF we believe in Jesus.

How to grow your relationship with God.

1. Pray to Him everyday.
 - This is how we talk to God.
2. Read the Bible.
 - This is how God talks to us.
3. Be part of a small group discipleship relationship and grow together spiritually.

APPLICATION:

Patiently listen as God reveals where you can apply the passage's lesson in your life. Write down specific action points to what He has revealed to you.

1. How and when did you establish a relationship with Jesus?
2. What evidence/s in your life prove/s that you have a relationship with Jesus?
3. How can you help others know about the love of God and Jesus Christ?

PRAYERS:

Lift all the things that you learned back to God. Share your thoughts to Him. If He is impressing a sin in your life, confess it to Him. He is always ready to forgive.