WEEK OF

JANUARY 22, 2012

SMALL GROUP

BIBLE DISCUSSION

TOPIC: THE CREATION OF ME

Objective: Realize that God is still active in the work of creation, especially in each one of us. Purpose to participate willingly with God in "the creation of me".

Points to Make

- ❖ When God created light, planets, plants and animals, he did so simply by the word of his mouth.
- ❖ God said, "Light," and there light was. He spoke of stars and planets and moons and there they were.
- ❖ But when he came to the creation of man, he didn't do so by speaking a word. He did something physical. He formed Adam out of the dust of the earth.
- ❖ But the job was not done; the new creation lay there, created by the hands of God, but lifeless.
- ❖ Then God did something different. He breathed into Adam breath that would fill Adam's lungs and transform that clay figure into a living soul.
- ❖ Breath that Adam could form into any word he chose. Breath that Adam could use to express any feeling, any meaning that he would choose.
- ❖ And God told Adam he could use those words to name everything in his surroundings – trees, places, animals, experiences, whatever – even Eve.
- ❖ You and I have that same privilege. God created every place and creature and circumstance of our lives. But we get to decide what want to call them.
- ❖ One of the great realizations we can have is one David also had. It so impressed him that he wrote it down, in Psalm 139: "I am fearfully and wonderfully made" (v.14).
- ❖ God took great care in the creation of the world. Is He finished?
- ❖ Romans 8:22-25 tells us that all of creation is groaning as if in childbirth, waiting for the revealing of creation's ultimate product – the children of God.
- ❖ God has taken great care in our creation. We need to take note of, and take action on, three things:

1. His hand is always present in the creation of us. The opportunity we have is to recognize and welcome God's hand.
2. You can take part in the creation of you. First, choose to be part of God's new creation.

- ▪ When we come into Christ we become part of a new creation. This goes beyond being baptized at one point in time. "If any man be IN Christ" – it's a continual thing.

Key Scriptures:
I John 3:2-3; Romans 8:18-25 (NIV)
Psalm 139:13-15

- ▪ Every day we need to immerse ourselves in Him. Like David we can ask God, "Create in me a clean heart, and renew a right spirit within me" (Psalm 51:10).

3. This creation takes place through God's word.

- ▪ The creation of me into God's image takes place as I fill myself with God's word. II Corinthians 3:18 tells us that as we take in and reflect on the word of God we are changed into His likeness, from one state of glory to the next.
- ▪ Read it, reflect on it, put it into your mouth. Something powerful happens when we use the breath of God to speak the words of God.
- ❖ In the book of Acts, when the disciples got busy, God worked with them, confirming His word with signs following.
- ❖ God wants you to get busy working with Him in the creation of you. He wants me to get busy working with Him in the creation of me.
- ❖ God never changes. He will confirm this word, with signs following, in each of our lives.

Discussion Tools

- ❖ Who has the most "say" in what happens to the creation while it is being created? (What is more important, the workman or the material?) Explain.
- ❖ You are God's creation. Are you complete? How so, or how not?
- ❖ Think about the words that you have spoken in the last little while. Were they creative or destructive to yourself or others (friends, children, parents, spouse, schoolmates, co-workers, etc..)?
- ❖ Pray a prayer of commitment, to use words that line up with God's word and plans for you/others.

Family Application

- ❖ As a family/household, note the words heard in your home this week (not who said them). If you live alone, check words on the phone/texts/e-mails. Does anything need to change? How will it change in your home?

Prayer Time

God, I am in Your hands. May I be a vessel fit for Your service. Let the words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart help to build and not to destroy Your handiwork.

ICE-BREAKER: If someone were to describe you by a personality trait or "quirk", what would it be?

NOTES