

Living Connections Bible Study



A Debt I Cannot Pay

Prayer

Text: Romans 13:7-14

Icebreaker: Share an account when you or someone you know fell asleep and had to be awakened.

1. Of all our debts to God and society, what is the one debt we will never discharge in a lifetime or even eternity? Romans 13:8

2. How did we become indebted to love God and others?

1 John 4:19 _____

1 Peter 1:18-19 _____

1 John 3:16; 4:11 _____

Love for God and love for others has become a debt we owe that we will never discharge in a lifetime. We can never say *I've done enough! My obligation is finished! I loved God and my neighbor yesterday and so my debt is paid! I can stop loving today!* We can never say that.

3. What is the context of this command, *Owe no one anything except to love one another?* Verse 7

4. How is love the fulfillment of the Ten Commandments and all that God asks us to do? Verses 8b-10; Matthew 22:37-40; Romans 5:5; Matthew 5:17; Galatians 5:22a; 6:2; Colossians 3:14

Agape-love is a volitional love, a love of choice, a self-sacrificing love as opposed to a purely emotional love. Agape-love involves a positive decision or action, acting in the best interest of others, even toward someone who is unworthy of our love.

5. What time is it on God prophetic clock during this present Church age? Verse 11
Matthew 24:44; Mark 13:32-37

6. What do the following verses have to teach us about believers who are not living in expectancy of Christ's return? Verse 11; Ephesians 5:14; 1 Corinthian 15:34

7. What does Paul mean by the terms *Night* and *Day*, *works of Darkness* and *armor of Light*? Verse 12; Ephesians 6:10-18

1 Thessalonians 5:1-9; *But concerning the times and the seasons, brethren, you have no need that I should write to you. For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord [His coming judgment on the world] so comes as a thief in the night. For when they [unbelievers] say, Peace and safety! then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape. But you, brethren, [you Christians] are not in darkness, so that this Day [of the Lord's judgment] should overtake you as a thief. You are all sons of light and sons of the day. We are not of the night nor of darkness. Therefore let us not sleep, as others do [like unbelievers do], but let us watch [let us be alert] and sober. For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk are drunk at night. But let us who are of the day [We who are Christians are to] be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet the hope [assurance] of salvation. For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.*

8. What negative things of this world's system should we abhor and stay away from because of our love for God and others? Verse 13; Romans 12:9; Ephesians 5:18; Hebrews 13:4; 1 Corinthians 3:3

9. What does it mean to put on the Lord Jesus Christ? Verse 14

Colossians 3:8-10; *But now you yourselves are to put off all these: [take off the old garment of your flesh, including] anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth. Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man [the old Adam, the old self] with his deeds, and have put on the new man [your new nature in Christ] who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him [of Jesus] who created him.*

10. What does it mean to make no provision for the flesh to fulfill its lusts? Verse 14
James 1:13-15; Proverbs 4:23

Think about it this week:

*Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved,
put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering;
bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another;
even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do.
But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection.*

Colossians 3:12-14

**Deal with sin as it deals with you!
Spare it not, it will not spare you!**

Let your love for God and others motivate you to say *YES!* to the Holy Spirit and *NO!* to sin.