



Small Group Discussion Questions
"The Promise of Covenant Love"
Pastor Tyler Scott
July 12/13, 2014

Opening Remarks

Every one of us has a soul, a heart, a spiritual center. And from our soul hangs an imaginary anchor. Oftentimes, we find ourselves anchoring into people and things that are not "firm and secure." This week we see God's promise of covenant love – beginning with Abraham and culminating in Jesus Christ – and we all should anchor deep. Then, and only then, will we have hope that is firm and secure.

Warm it up

1. What are some of the people/things we try to "anchor" our souls and lives into?
2. Share about a specific time/season of your life where you anchored your soul into something/someone other than God's covenant love. What happened? How did it turn out? What did you learn from it?

Talk it over/Work it Through

1. Read Genesis 12:1-3, and Hebrews 6:13-19. What stands out to you about the relationship between these two passages?

2. Tyler defined a covenant as “a binding relationship, based on a promise,” and “law + love.” What are some examples of covenant relationships in your life?
 - A. When you think of covenant *language* and/or covenant relationships, are you more of a LAWYER or a LOVER? Explain.
 - B. Share some of the “consumer relationships” you have in your life, along with some of the “covenant relationships.”
 - i. Share a time when you brought “consumer” tendencies to “covenant” territory. How did that affect the relationship? ☺

3. Do you have a tendency to see God as more LAW or LOVE? Do you see His covenant love as CONDITIONAL or UNCONDITIONAL? More Old Testament or New Testament? Why? How might this message have changed your understanding?
 - A. Why is God’s covenant love for us the perfect blend of law and love?

4. **Read Genesis 15.** Have you ever been waiting for God to fulfill a promise in your life...and you asked a “HOW CAN I KNOW?” question, like Abraham in 15:8? Share with the group.
 - A. Well-known Christian theologian R. C. Sproul calls Genesis 15 his favorite passage in Scripture, because it displays the wonderful and loving heart of God – to initiate AND fulfill the full and final terms of incredible covenant love. For what aspect of God’s covenant love are you most grateful? Most awestruck?

 - B. **Read Galatians 3:13-14.** The promise of God’s covenant love, made to Abraham, reaches its fulfillment in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the cross for our sins. He takes the curse...and amazingly, He leaves the blessing for us. How does that make you feel? What affect does that type of love from God have on your heart?

 - C. Can you think of a time/example in your life where someone took punishment on your behalf, so that you could be blessed? Share.

5. Share ONE SPECIFIC WAY you can apply God's covenant love:
- A. to your FAMILY...
 - B. to your FUTURE...
 - C. to your FAILURES (the more specific you are here, the better😊)...
 - D. to your FAITHFULNESS...(ie obeying *because* you're accepted by God, instead of being so *that* you're accepted by God. In other words, how does God's covenant love affect your motivation for being faithful?)
 - E. to your FOUNDATION (where you attach the "anchor" of your soul)...
6. Are you a member of CPC? Put another way: have you entered into the covenant relationship of membership with your church? If so, share why. If not, share why not?
- A. Has anything you have heard from the sermon or during your study helped "move the needle" in your heart toward understanding and appreciating covenant relationships in such a way that a "next step" would be joining the membership of CPC?

Commit to Memory

We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. – Hebrews 6:19

Pray it Through

Pray for one another!