



SDG Discussion Guide

Colossians 1:2

June 14, 2020

Guideline:

Before you begin your discussion and reading of Scripture, pray. Ask God to enlighten you, to show you where he has been at work and present in your past week through moments and people. Ask Him to guide and enliven your group in your readings and discussion.

For starters:

Considering other cultures that you have experienced, what is one aspect of another culture that you appreciated or enjoyed? One aspect that you found frustrating?

What is your preferred way of greeting your family members - your natural way to show affection to those you most care about?

See the following questions that may assist you in your discussion.

1. Read slow and aloud **Colossians 1:2**. What do you notice? Because you believe in Christ, have you ever understood yourself to be a saint? How does it feel? Consider the point that every believer you know, because of Christ, is a saint. As this truth sinks in further, does it alter or enhance your perspective of your faith community, and if so, how?

2. Read slow and aloud **1 Peter 2:9-10**. In verse 10, Peter reminds his readers of two truths concerning their condition — before Christ, and after Christ. What are those two truths?

3. How much of a person's identity is wrapped up in their past -- who they were, what has happened to them and for them, where they were born, the way they were raised, and the way they were treated or mistreated by people?

4. Because of Christ, what is Peter's message to his readers about their new identity? Is a Christian's true identity wrapped up in the past, or is it more about Christ and the future that awaits them?

5. Read slow and aloud **Romans 12:1-2**. What does it mean to be conformed to this world? Name a key issue or two where God's way of doing things is different from the world's way. How can we renew our minds?

6. Read slow and aloud **John 14:2** for reference. The mentality existed in the early church that there was a deep love and affection and commitment to others in the body of Christ -- that resembled an actual family. They shared goods and possessions, residences, and properties, etc. As believers were added to their number, they added rooms onto existing houses to include people into the family of faith. What is the modern version of this practice -- how do we help people assimilate into the family of God, or not? Where is there an opportunity to show greater love for our family?

7. Did the sermon and these discussions from Scripture bring you to a greater conviction that we are not just acquaintances in the community of faith, but we are the affectionate family of God - both Saints and Siblings? Elaborate.

Prayer:

Spend some time in prayer. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you realize evermore your true identity as both Saint and Sibling in your place in the family of God. Ask His help to become more comfortable, demonstrative, and fluent in the holy nation he has called us to be, in Jesus' name, amen.