Week 4 - Romans Series

Sermon-based Growth Group Questions

Introductory Discussion:

What was "the takeaway" (the most important point) from Sunday's sermon and/or the sermon text, in your opinion?

What insight from Sunday's sermon did you find most helpful, or eye-opening, or troubling (pick any or all of the above)?

Read Romans 1:24-32

Discussion:

- 1. Read Romans 1:18–27 and 2:1–5. Briefly explain how God's wrath operates in the present and in the future. What are some evidences of God's present wrath in our culture?
- 2. What are the three exchanges and resulting consequences of human depravity in Romans 1? Why do you think Paul went beyond condemning sexual sin in general (vv. 24-25) to condemning homosexual sin in particular (vv. 26-27)?
- 3. A popular idea today is that since many who experience same-sex attraction testify to *discovering* rather than *choosing* their same-sex attraction, it cannot be wrong to act in accordance with their authentic feelings and desires. How would Paul evaluate this reasoning?
- 4. What phrases in verses 25 and 28 describe attitudes or actions which lie behind the various acts of evil?
- 5. How does God respond to these evil attitudes? How might God giving people over to this evil (vv. 24, 26 and 28) be a part of their punishment? How does their "freedom" actually become a trap?
- 6. How have you seen examples of a futile mind and a darkened heart in your own life?
- 7. How has your freedom to resist God only ended up hurting you?
- 8. How would you use this section to talk with someone who believes all people are basically good?
- 9. Why is it essential to keep Romans 1:15-17 central in our discussion of any and every sin? Who do you know that needs to experience "the power of God for salvation"?

Some questions taken directly from "What does the Bible really teach about homosexuality?" Study guide by Kevin DeYoung.

Prayer: Take time to pray together as a group.