Harvest Bible Chapel Small Group Questions April 19, 2009

1Thessalonians 4:1-8

Because of the nature of this week's message, use <u>discretion</u> in your discussion as couples. We want to promote transparency in our groups. But this week there should be much more openness and honest confession of sin in the mutual ministry time (men with men, women with women.) Be sensitive to those in your group who are single. Also, be sensitive to those who may be new to the idea of transparency and accountability.

- How much information about sex did you have when you were in the 6th grade? Where did your information come from? Parents, friends, enemies, media, church? How much of the information was from God's point of view? Compared to the information you had, what do you think today's 6th graders know about sex?
- 2. If you are a parent, are you apprehensive about talking to your kids about sexual purity? If you have small children, have you thought about how you will talk to them about purity? If your children are older, what did you tell them about purity at different points in their maturity? Are you afraid you might find out things you really don't want to know? Why?
- 3. What does the word sanctification mean? How long does it take? What practical things has God done in your life in the last five years to continue the process of sanctification? How about the last 5 days?
- 4. Share what you and your family do to protect yourself from impure images and messages that are delivered through television, internet, radio, advertising, etc. How can you elevate the standard of purity in your home?
- 5. Read Proverbs 6:23-28, 32-33. List some of the consequences of sexual sin. There may be someone in your group who has confessed, repented, and been delivered from sexual immorality. Ask if anyone would be willing to share their story (without gory details) of repentance and being set free. Although forgiveness is always available to the repentant, sometimes consequences of sin remain. Would someone have freedom to share any consequences they are still living with as a warning for the rest of us?
- 6. (Mutual Ministry) Where is the place of greatest temptation for you? Do you have any relationships that need to change or end in order to be pure? What one thing could you do this week to help you win the battle for sexual purity?
- 7. (Mutual Ministry) Have you shared your battle with sexual impurity with your spouse? Why or why not? Are you willing to hear from your spouse how they struggle? How can you, as a spouse, help your spouse be sexually pure?
- 8. (Mutual Ministry) Is there any area of sexual sin you need to confess and repent of right now? Do you need to recruit the help of a friend in the group to encourage you to live a life of purity? If so, what are waiting for?