

Small Group Discussion Questions – January 23, 2011

"Switching Identities" ~ Colossians 2:9-15

Sermon notes from Ken Neller

Pendulum Swings: Pendulum swings, better known as icebreakers or getting started questions, are just a fun way to kickoff your small group time together by going from the not so serious to deeper connecting times.

As you begin your Small Group this week ... ***"Would you rather ..."***

1. "... eat chocolate or vanilla ice cream?" (Go easy, I know there are other options ... like chocolate chip cookie dough ...)
2. "... roller skate or ice skate?"
3. "... make a difference in the world and be unknown or be famous for doing nothing?"
4. "... speak the name of Jesus to others or live Jesus in front of others because you cannot speak?"

CONTINUE READING: Colossians from the Message – *i.e., not your usual version* (download available at < www.biblegateway.com >

1. Describe your baptism:
 - how old were you, why were you baptized, what did it mean to you?
 - if it has, how has your perspective changed?
2. Read again Col. 2:9-15
 - If, when we were baptized into Christ our "body of flesh" (NAB, NRSV) or "sinful nature" (NIV) has been cut off and cast away (as in circumcision), does that mean there is no more temptation?
 - If so, why? If not, what does it mean?
3. In the Bible – noted today in Colossians 2:9-15, the symbol of baptism stands for many spiritual realities. *i.e.*, what happens to us at baptism can be described in many ways.
 - According to this passage, what happens in baptism?
 - What do other passages in the NT say?
 - In what ways to these affect our view of God? ... of ourselves?
4. What does that mean for us today "that God triumphed over the powers and authorities by what he did through the cross of Christ?" (2:15)