

Connection to Session 8

The value of human life is emphasized in both the group sessions as well as the message outline.

Introduction/Opening

These days, some new soon-to-be parents get very creative in announcing the sex of their child before the baby's birth. Parents pop balloons, cut into cakes, hit baseballs, and even bash pinatas, all to reveal what color is inside each item, either pink or blue. No matter what, however, excitement is in the air, fun and giggles abound. Life is celebrated.

Such is the conduct of those who love and applaud life. But one does not need to do this only on occasions such as this, or even once a year to remember the sanctity of life. Life is something that everyone can and should celebrate. Life is precious. Life is wondrous. And, yes, life is valuable.

This is the posture of Noah and his sons as they left the ark. They were commanded to multiply and fill the earth, and they began to accomplish this in obedience to God. But what about today? And how does this relate to the gospel? Today, we are going to discuss these questions and more.

Outline

1. We Love Life (9:7,18-19)

- a. God commanded Noah and his sons to multiply and fill the earth (v. 7).
 - i. This same command was given to Adam in Genesis 1:28.
 - ii. Noah had three Sons: Shem, Ham, and Japheth.
 - 1. All three expanded their family lines.
 - 2. "From them the whole earth was populated" (Genesis 9:18-19).
- b. This population was a God-centered base. After the flood, Noah and his sons had the chance to start over again with God at the center of all life.

- c. Why this activity of filling the earth?
 - i. Because of God's love for people (John 3:16).
 - ii. Because people are image bearers of God (Gen. 1:26-27).
- iii. Because people are God's appointed authority for the earth (Gen. 1:28).
- iv. Because God commanded them to do so.
- d. We love life for these same reasons!
 - i. The gospel is all about life: eternal life.
 - ii. The advancement of the Kingdom is the activity of the gospel, something we love.
- iii. Every year we commission missionaries and church planters. Every year we go on mission, give to missions, and share the gospel with another—all because we love to see others love Jesus, too.

2. We Preserve Life (9:8-17)

- a. We preserve life because God preserves life.
- b. God is the Creator and Sustainer of life (Gen 1:1; John 1:3; Col 1:16-17).
- c. God is the One who overcame sin and death. This is seen through the gospel.
- d. The command to physically multiply also applies to spiritually multiply: sharing Christ with those who do not know Him.

3. We Celebrate Life and the God Who Created Life

- i. Life is precious (Ps. 139:13-16).
- ii. Life is wondrous (Ps. 86:10).
- iii. Life is valuable (Matt. 6:26).

Conclusion

Life is precious, wondrous, and valuable. We as Christians are called to love and preserve life. As Noah and his sons filled the earth, we are to expand the Kingdom of Christ to reach the nations. God called them to a task at that time, and He calls us to a gospel task now.

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