

## NOTE FROM PASTOR JONATHAN

The **last set of questions** will be for June 29 and resume in September. **Bridge Group** start back up in October. I will be sending out video or email updates throughout the summer, with thought-provoking questions or my reflections on the sermons! Leaders, I would also love to connect with you!

**UNITE College & Career Ministry** will host a **Summer BBQ Grill & Chill** for our young adults, **aged 18-30+** on Saturday, July 5<sup>th</sup> @ 10:30 AM at Confederation Park! There will be great food, fun games, and lots of great people! Come hang out, meet new friends, and connect (or reconnect) with the UNITE community! **Details and registration:** <https://willingdon.org/events/unite-grill-chill>.

Also, are you or anyone from your Life Group looking for work? Come to the **Career Care Workshop** on Sunday, June 29<sup>th</sup> from 1:30 – 3:00 pm and find help to improve your resume and get an interview. This is for recent graduates or people wanting to find a new job. It'll be an interactive session to learn about God's design for work and help you with your job search. **Details and registration:** <https://willingdon.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/2988434>.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (Pick and adapt any that will help your group discuss the sermon.)

Check out the Questions with Notes and Commentary to dig deeper: <https://willingdon.org/lifegroups/leaders-corner/>

**Let's Warm Up: Questions to break the ice.**

1. What status did you chase when you were a kid? Is it something you're still proud of?
2. What are some ways people try to express their social status in Canadian society or elsewhere?
3. What do you think is the most important type of status for the people around you? (E.g., career, wealth, educational attainment, relationship, physical appearance, etc.) Why do people value it so much?

**Let's Get Started: Questions to start thinking about the main themes.**

4. Does someone's earthly status or condition reflect their relationship with God?
5. How does knowing our circumstances are appointed by God affect how we see them?

**Let's Dig In: Questions to discuss the passage and how we can respond.**

6. Why was circumcision or uncircumcision such a big deal?
7. Pastor Ray said, "From our earliest years, he is forming and preparing us for his purposes: the family we were born into, our ethnic background and its history, our life experiences, education, professional training. God redeems all of this for his purposes." How has God used your past to shape you to be who you are today?
8. How can obedience to God in any circumstance bring glory to God and be a witness to non-believers?
9. Pastor Ray said, "When we give more importance to status in life, based on worldly criteria, we effectively deny the worth of God's calling to salvation based on grace alone!" How does focusing on status deny God's grace?
10. What is our status in Christ? How does remembering it help us prioritize it over worldly status?
11. Pastor Ray said, "Whatever your condition in life, remain grounded in your core identity as His disciple. Make that your primary passion in life, not changing your life circumstances. Rather than being driven by human aspirations, direct your ambitions and passions toward Jesus and his purposes." What is your life situation (e.g., relationship status, career, immigration status)? How can your condition in life be used to pursue Jesus' purposes?