

**TO THE READER:** A good learning technique is to answer the following questions BEFORE reading the booklet. After reading, you can refine your answers based on your reading. Then, when your group gathers, each can discuss his or her view and you can either affirm or modify what you wrote.

1. What is the *general* understanding of the Christian world about those who call themselves Calvinists? (5-6)
2. Read Romans 12:1-2. Why do you think Paul tells us that our renewing starts with the mind and not the heart? (6-7)
3. Read Isaiah 6:1-8 and Revelation 5-6. What do these passages teach about God (Who He is and what He has done)? (6-10)
4. What does the passage teach about the reactions of those who saw even a glimpse of God?
5. Isaiah's reaction is one of confessing his sin and recognizing his impending death as a result. Was this a reaction of the mind or the heart? (See Isaiah 6:6.) (10-14)
6. Read again Isaiah 6:6-7. Where do you see the grace of God in what happens? (14-16)

7. After God extended His grace to Isaiah (6:8) what did He do next? What was Isaiah's response? How long did it take Isaiah to make his decision? Why? (16-21)
  
8. How, by God's grace, can we keep going when the world seems to be crashing in on us? (16-21)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
9. What is legalism, and why is God so opposed to it? (21-30)

After going through these questions, read the text and fill in the answers in preparation for class, noting other questions you might have. [By the way, if you do have any other questions about what you read, write them down here so you remember them at class time.]

## APPLICATION

**A change of mind** – If we are to be renewed by having our minds changed, then start with the Fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23). On a scale of 1-10, how do you rate yourself on each trait? Open a concordance and look up every reference to each. What do you learn about how that fruit represents the Christian life? Take those you rated lowest and make a plan, *now*, how you, by the enabling and transforming work of the Holy Spirit, and by this time next year, can rate yourself even one point higher. This is a way to help you measure your spiritual growth. For each gain, give all the glory to God, as He works in you to will and to do of His good pleasure.

## For Further Study

*What is Grace?* Sean Michael Lucas. P&R Publishing, 2011.

*The Doctrines of Grace: Rediscovering the Evangelical Gospel.* James M. Boice and Philip G. Ryken. Crossway, 2002.

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