

Catch On Bible Study Group

Catch On Study Guide

Created as a Specialized Book
to get us thinking and asking questions toward a better understanding of

THE NEW COVENANT Transforming the Marketplace

The Purpose

The **Catch On** Study Guide is intended to be a starting point for conversation on these ideas exchanged during our Wednesday evening 6:55 PDT¹ weekly teleconference. At 6:55 PDT call **(218) 237-3840** and enter the access code **124393** followed by # key; tell Marti your name and where you are calling from. As a group we will put aside everything else and get ready for John who will begin at 7:00 sharp.

John will break his teaching for questions during the first 45 minutes and he will conclude the study at 7:45 with a group interactive discussion to follow until 8:00 with John and Marti. To address the group hit *5 to un-mute your phone and hit *6 to mute your phone when done speaking,

The study is recorded. We encourage you to listen to the recording at least once during the week and before our next study by calling (218) 237-3850, enter access code 124393 followed by the # sign and the recording number: 090711 followed by the # sign.

The Premise of our Catch On Study

The premise is if you believe 100% that you are right, you will see everything from your 100% right perceptive, where there is no opening for a wider angle.

Examining the Challenges

In studying the New Covenant, we will examine the challenges we face in living together respectfully and joyfully on this small planet and, at the same time, we will recognize the greater part we can play as a member of the marketplace.

The **Catch On** Study Guide is intended to provide a contemplative, thought-provoking look at how the things that make us different also make us alike—in both the Christian and secular culture. The **Catch On** Study Guide is intended to be a starting point for conversation on these ideas during our Wednesday evening 6:55 PDT weekly teleconference.

Questions to Get Started

Please do not spend any more time than a minute on questions 1-10. Jot down your brief notes in the margin. There is no “right” or “wrong” answer to most questions found within this section. Rather, the questions are asked to get us thinking and asking more questions. Your answers are meant to help you reflect on your own understandings - so don't shoot Ms Marti - the messenger.

¹ The majority of those responding to our survey selected Wednesday evenings at 7:00 PDT as the best time to meet consistently.

1. What, in your opinion, drew us together as a study group?
2. Do you think we are all from the same religion or do you think there will be various religions represented by the other members on our weekly calls?
3. What are the differences between and the similarities of a church Christian, a non-churched Christian, and a seeker? Which would you consider yourself and are you content with that handle?
4. In your opinion, is it important to insist that you are 100% right all the time? Is there a difference between being 100% right and being an extremist? If no, why? If so, why?
5. Can you think of a world event, around the world or here at home, when to be adamant about being 100% right caused great harm and death? Jot down the event that come to mind.
6. What are your thoughts around the event that came to your mind?
7. Do you agree with the statement that all conflicts are based on the fanatic need to be correct? Think about the militant conflicts between Jews and the Palatines; the Muslim Shiites, Kurds, and Sunni Arabs against the infidels ("the Christians and Jews"); the Christian Crusade (Protestant Christians), Catholicism; and so on.
8. Has the radical dichard killed the faith? If no," then why and if "yes," then why?
9. Think about a time when you felt you were required to represent yourself to be 100% right. Once you have a picture in your mind, ask, "Was the need to be 100% right because it is rooted in my faith or was the need to be 100% right rooted more in my fear?"
10. Some have said that when we are not sure we are 100% right we have a tendency to be doubly sure. Do you think this is true? Is there a time in your life when you had to be more 'loud' in defending your beliefs when you were not quite sure you were 100% right?

Section 1 - The New Convent - Part One - Walking By An Open Door

II Corinthians, Chapter 2:12-14 (September 7th)

Questions will be discussed on September 14th and before we move on to new material.

Read II Corinthians, Chapter 2:12 through to Chapter 5 and, in preparation for our second teleconference, focus your thinking on II Corinthians, Chapter 2:12-14 (New International Version below)

12 Now when I went to Troas to preach the gospel of Christ and found that the Lord had opened a door for me,

13 I still had no peace of mind, because I did not find my brother Titus there. So I said good-by to them and went on to Macedonia.

14 But thanks be to God, who always leads us in triumphal procession in Christ and through us spreads everywhere the fragrance of the knowledge of him.

1. Think about the contents of the session above, Questions to Get Started. Is there an overall message and, if so, what do you think it is?

2. When was the last time you had an opportunity to minister but you *said good-by to them and went on?* Perhaps a time when one of your children asked a key question and you were running to catch a flight, a colleague invited you to lunch but you were on deadline or a neighbor asked you in for coffee but you had errands to run. We have all ignored our heart's plea to recognize an opening for another matter considered urgent. Briefly describe the event that comes to your mind.
3. Marti is a natural leader. She can lead people into the middle of the street or she can lead them to closer understanding of who they are in the face in Christ. In your opinion, what is the difference between God leading and Marti leading?
4. Do you believe it is God's business to bring his people to himself or do you think that it is part of a Christian's job description?
5. When do you find yourself operating as God's assistant and what tends to be the occasion when you choose to be the bystander?
6. Marti can be in California and John can be in New York but whenever John smells the perfume Marti always wears on someone else, Marti instantly comes to his mind. Why is that? Have you ever been in a closed room with someone who is wearing such obnoxious perfume that it forces you to leave the room or stay and get sick? Why does one perfume smell appealing while another can make you feel like you are suffocating?
7. What, then, is the fragrance of the knowledge of Christ?
8. And who in this passage is wearing the fragrance?

Please read this passage in preparation for our September 14th Catch On Bible Study

**Section 2: The New Covent Part Two - The Fragrance
II Corinthians, Chapter 2:14-17**

September 14TH

14 But thanks be to God, who always leads us in triumphal procession in Christ and through us spreads everywhere the fragrance of the knowledge of him.

15 For we are to God the aroma of Christ among those who are being saved and those who are perishing.

16 To the one we are the smell of death; to the other, the fragrance of life. And who is equal to such a task?

17 Unlike so many, we do not peddle the word of God for profit. On the contrary, in Christ we speak before God with sincerity, like men sent from God.