

2013-14 BSP#6 Group Time Discussion

L – Low, M – Medium, and H – High, indicate the difficulty of a question. Group leaders should select questions that are challenging to their groups but not so difficult that their group members cannot answer.

(A) “He Opened to Us the Scriptures” - Questions for scriptural reading and discussion
(Time available: 10 minutes. Do any 2 questions.) 「祂給我們講解了聖經」- 為讀經及共同討論的問題(用十分鐘時間，討論 2 個問題)

1. [H] In 8:12-13, there are two ways to live according to Paul: “according to the flesh” and “by the Spirit”. How do you understand these two ways? Provide three examples for each way, one of which must be related to the conjugal union between male and female. 在 8:12-13 照聖保祿所說，有兩種方式去生活：“隨從肉性”及“隨從聖神”。您如何理解這兩種生活的方式？請為這兩種生活的方式各列舉三個例子。其中一個例子應與男女的性結合有關。
2. [M] In 9:18, how is the pattern of God’s dealings with Israel and Pharaoh in Exodus repeated in Paul’s day? What does “divine hardening” do – and not do? 在出谷紀 9:18 中天主對以色列人與對法老王的方式如何在聖保祿時代又重現了？“上主使人心硬”會促成或不會促成什麼？
3. [L] Read 9:25-26. What is Paul’s message in turning to the prophet Hosea in these verses? 請閱讀羅 9:25-26。聖保祿在此引歐瑟亞先知的章句是要傳遞什麼訊息？

(B) “Did Not Our Hearts Burn?” – Discuss one of the two questions below for meditation, prayer, and application. (Suggested time: 10 minutes) “我們的心不是火熱的嗎？“為默想，祈禱，實踐”的題目，請用十分鐘討論以下一條問題。

1. Read 8:24-25. What are some of your strengths and weaknesses with regard to the virtue of hope? On a practical level, how do you balance between the two deficiencies related to hope – on the one hand, presumption (a cocksure attitude that heaven is in your back pocket); and, on the other, despair (terror that you will never make it even with God’s grace)? 請閱讀羅 8:24-25。關於望德，您的強項與弱點是什麼？以現實的層面看，您如何平衡這兩個極端 – 一端是傲慢冒昧的妄想(自以為是，認為天堂必然已在自己口袋中)，另一端是失望、恐懼(以為自己就算有天主聖寵的助佑也無法得救)。
2. Reflect on 9:13. How is it possible for God to love one person “less” than someone else? How confident are you of God’s love for you? Or of his love for the people you find unlovable? If God loves everybody equally, why do some people seem to enjoy personal contact with him more than others do? 請默想羅 9:13。天主怎能對某人不如對另一人愛得那麼多？您是否有信心天主是愛您的呢？若天主對眾人都一樣喜愛，為什麼好像有些人比其它人更親密地與天主接觸？