

(1) Take a few minutes and let each person share briefly what they think of the biblical doctrine of divine election. How has this been presented to you in the past? Do you believe the understanding of it as articulated in the sermon on Sunday? In what ways has election been defined differently from the way Sam defined it on Sunday morning?

(2) Read through the 8 occasions in John's gospel where we read about the Father "giving" men and women to the Son, to whom, in turn, he gives eternal life. What do these texts mean? Provide biblical support, if possible, for your answer.

(3) There were 7 points made regarding the nature of divine election. Review them and respond. Do you agree or disagree with any (or all) of them? If so, why? Be sure to provide biblical reasons for your disagreement. It isn't enough to say, "I don't like it" or "It strikes me as unfair" or "I find it emotionally unappealing."

(4) When we are inclined to speculate about whether people we know are elect or not, what should be the proper response? Is this a legitimate question to ask? If not, why not? What should we tell someone who isn't a believer who asks: "Do you think I'm elect?"

(5) Jesus clearly defines "eternal life" as consisting essentially in "knowing God". What does this mean? How does it show itself in your daily life and the way you relate to God?