Discussion Questions Glory Glory Hallelujah (The Grim Reaper Isn't Grim) Revelation 14:13-20

(Have you ever been swept away in the joy of good news and forgotten about yourself, about your ego, your pride or dignity? If so, share about it.)

- Do you think there's anything that you in your own strength and power can do to make yourself right in God's eyes?
- Even if we know we can't make ourselves right in God's eyes, we often still try. Why do you think that is?
- When you get tired of yourself and your attempts to make yourself and/or others "right" in the eyes of God, yourself, and others what do you do to escape the pressure?
- What do you think God does or has already done to help relieve that pressure?

Read Revelation 14:14-20

• Does the above portion of Scripture scare or excite you? Why?

The harvesting and treading of the winepress seems to be a picture of God's judgment.

- Do you see this picture of His judgment as wrathful, destructive, redemptive, loving something else, all of the above? Explain.
- When do you think this harvesting and treading of the winepress takes place?
- What do you think is the purpose of it? What is being reaped?

Every grain of wheat grows within a casing that is chaff. Jesus told the parable of the wheat and tares (Matt. 13). We often think of the wheat as one group of people and the tares as another, we often think that judgment will fall on some but not on others, but it seems there is a good scriptural case for the idea that all of us are both wheat and tare and must face the judgment.

• Do you agree with the idea that we all consist of both wheat and tare? Explain.

But in John 12 Jesus says, "The hour has come for the son of Man to be glorified. Unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies it remains alone; but if it dies it bears much fruit... Now is the Judgment of this world." Jesus is the Promised Seed, and Scripture says that we are God's field. That makes Jesus the thing that is reaped, as well as the Reaper.—P.H.

- If Jesus is the Seed *and* the wheat, and we are part of His body, what can we learn from the above Scripture?
- How does the wheat bear fruit?
- How is loneliness overcome?
- What does it mean to "die"?
- What do you think inspired Jesus to lay down His life?
- Is there anything that might inspire you to lay down your life for another?
- If *God* is the one who plants the seed, who is the Seed, and the one who harvests the seed, and we can't do those things, and yet we long for justice—for things to be right in ourselves and others—wouldn't the judgment and the harvest—God separating the True You, from the chaff... be good news?

Rev. 14:13 says, "Blessed are the dead who die." But, "woe to the dead who won't die."

- Wouldn't it be great to willingly surrender the chaff to the one who planted the Seed, is the Seed, and harvested the seed?
- What might give you courage to willingly surrender the chaff to God?
- Is there anything holding you back from trusting Him?
- Are there any areas you hide in fear from the Judgment?
- Can you identify any areas in which you are afraid to die (areas you think you still need to justify yourself rather than trusting God's Judgment?)
- Take some time to share them with your loving Heavenly Father.
- Ask Him to set you free from all your fears so you can trust Him and rest in His love.

^{*}These questions were created by Kimberly Weynen