



BIBLE CLASS DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How does understanding the Greek word '*methuskoa*' as an inceptive verb (marking the beginning of a process) change your perspective on what the Bible means by drunkenness?
2. If medical science confirms that even one drink impairs judgment and affects behavior, how should Christians respond to the cultural acceptance of social drinking?
3. Why do you think there is such a strong effort by some to defend moderate alcohol consumption when the Bible's warnings are so clear about its dangers?
4. How does the distinction between fermented and unfermented wine in biblical times affect our interpretation of passages like Jesus turning water into wine at the wedding in Cana?
5. What does it reveal about one's heart when he searches for loopholes or exceptions to biblical principles rather than simply obeying what God has commanded?
6. If drinking parties are condemned in 1 Peter 4:3, how should Christians approach social gatherings where alcohol is present, even if they personally abstain?
7. How can the church better educate members about the biblical teaching on alcohol when cultural pressure and misinformation make social drinking seem acceptable?
8. What is the difference between using alcohol medically (as Paul instructed Timothy) versus recreationally, and why does this distinction matter biblically?
9. If we know that alcohol begins to impair judgment with the first drink, what does it mean to be filled with the Spirit as the alternative command in Ephesians 5:18?
10. How should Christians respond when other Christians attempt to justify social drinking by misinterpreting or twisting Scripture to fit their personal desires?

A Parable for Discussion: The Drunk Christian

Dale is a Christian who drinks. Dale holds the opinion that it is okay for a Christian to drink alcoholic beverages as long as it is done in moderation. Being familiar with the Scriptures, Dale also believes that if a Christian drinks and gets drunk, then it is sin. However, to the outside observer, Dale's viewpoint is best described as hypocritical inconsistency. God wants His people to be sober minded at all times (Titus 1:8; 2:12), following the example of Christ (1 Peter 2:21). If you are an occasional or social drinker, honestly consider the following questions:

- How does occasional drinking help me in my spiritual growth?
- Will I win anyone to Christ while engaging in social drinking?
- Would I feel uncomfortable buying alcohol while wearing a t-shirt with the church's name on it?
- Am I 100 percent sober after one drink or am I one drink drunk?
- Even if I drink in moderation, could I be influencing someone who does not have the same self-control?
- How would I feel if my preacher or elders were seen drinking alcohol in public?
- Is it hypocritical for me to drink while supporting a Christian rehab through my weekly giving?
- Will my children practice restraint if I set the example to drink responsibly?
- Would I want Jesus to return while I am attending a party that includes social drinking?