

## **DINNER TABLE & LIFEGROUP LEADERS' DISCUSSION REVIEW**

- ◇ Are “clergy” & “laity” helpful or harmful concepts? Why or why not?
  
- ◇ Why are we generally so fragile when it comes to any sort of criticism or hardship in serving the Lord? Do you think persecution would be good for the U.S. church? Why do you believe the cross is so offensive? Should we ‘soften’ the difficult parts of the gospel in order to win people to Christ?
  
- ◇ How does an understanding of God’s sovereignty help you endure hardships in the Christian life?
  
- ◇ We can face persecution from many directions. Which do you find is more difficult to endure: persecution from without or attacks from within the church? Why?
  
- ◇ Verse 9 is theologically very deep. List those theologically significant concepts in that verse.