**Theological Study: "How Now Shall We Live?"**

**I. Foundational Question**

The question "How now shall we live?" arises from the tension between **God's revelation** and our **human condition**. It demands an **ethical, spiritual, and missional response**.

**II. Biblical Basis**

**1. Ezekiel 33:10**

*“If our transgressions and our sins be upon us, and we pine away in them, how should we then live?”*

* **Context**: A desperate plea under the weight of sin.
* **Implication**: Life under judgment leads to repentance or death.
* **Theme**: God's call for **repentance and restoration**.

**2. Romans 12:1–2**

*“Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind...”*

* **Living Sacrifice**: Life is a response to mercy.
* **Worldview shift**: Replaces worldly thinking with gospel-centered purpose.
* **Theme**: **Transformed living** in response to God's grace.

**3. Micah 6:6–8**

*“He has told you... what is good: to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with your God.”*

* **Ethical clarity**: A heart aligned with God's character.
* **Relational and social dimensions** of faith.
* **Theme**: **Faith lived out** in community.

**4. Titus 2:11–14**

*“The grace of God... teaches us to say ‘No’ to ungodliness... and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives.”*

* **Grace as a teacher**.
* **Purpose**: Zealous for good works.
* **Theme**: **Sanctified living** by grace.

**III. Theological Themes**

**A. Creation – Identity**

* We are **image-bearers** (Genesis 1:26–28).
* Our life has **intrinsic purpose and dignity**.

**B. Fall – Brokenness**

* Sin distorts purpose, self, and community.
* Leads to the existential crisis of *“How can we live?”*

**C. Redemption – Grace**

* Jesus Christ is the way to **new life** (John 10:10, Col. 3:1–4).
* The Gospel gives us **identity and mission**.

**D. Restoration – Mission**

* We are **agents of renewal** (2 Cor. 5:17–20).
* Our life answers the call to **live redemptively in culture**.

**Teaching Outline: “How Now Shall We Live?”**

**SESSION 1: *The Crisis of Life Without God***

* Text: Ezekiel 33:10; Romans 1:18–32
* Main Idea: The weight of sin leads to the honest question of survival.
* Discussion:
  + What does it mean to “pine away” in sin?
  + How do people today ask this same question?
* Application: Recognize the depth of our need for God.

**SESSION 2: *Transformed by the Gospel***

* Text: Romans 12:1–2; Titus 2:11–14
* Main Idea: The Gospel doesn't just save; it reshapes how we live.
* Discussion:
  + What does “non-conformity to the world” look like today?
  + How does grace teach us to live?
* Application: Embrace a counter-cultural, renewed mindset.

**SESSION 3: *Walking with God in Practice***

* Text: Micah 6:6–8; James 1:22–27
* Main Idea: God desires an integrated life of justice, mercy, and humility.
* Discussion:
  + How do we distinguish between ritual and authentic worship?
  + What does “walking humbly” look like in leadership, family, society?
* Application: Practice visible and holistic righteousness.

**SESSION 4: *Living with Eternal Perspective***

* Text: Colossians 3:1–4; 1 Peter 1:13–16
* Main Idea: Our future hope transforms our present living.
* Discussion:
  + How do we “set our minds on things above”?
  + What does holy living look like in an unholy world?
* Application: Anchor your daily life in the reality of eternity.

**SESSION 5: *Agents of Restoration***

* Text: 2 Corinthians 5:17–20; Matthew 5:13–16
* Main Idea: Christians are called to embody and extend Christ’s redemption.
* Discussion:
  + What does it mean to be salt and light?
  + How do we engage culture without compromise?
* Application: Live missionally in your vocation, community, and culture.

**Suggested Spiritual Practices**

* **Daily Scripture reflection** with journal prompts: *“How shall I live in response to this truth?”*
* **Rule of life** creation: Define rhythms for spiritual, relational, and vocational integrity.
* **Community accountability**: Share personal applications and ask for prayer.

**Recommended Resources**

* *How Now Shall We Live?* by Charles Colson & Nancy Pearcey
* *Total Truth* by Nancy Pearcey
* *The Cost of Discipleship* by Dietrich Bonhoeffer
* *Live No Lies* by John Mark Comer