Discussion Questions:

1. Wesley was a pilgrim theologian. That is to say that his theological understanding matured as his life experience developed over the course of his years. This oftentimes involved significant changes in his understanding of grace. Does this process seem to be true in your own life? Have you discovered that your understanding has been growing as a result of your own personal quest for God? Do you find yourself open to growth? 150 words
2. In what sense do you think Wesley was a man of one book, as he claims in the “Preface.”
3. In his sermon, “Salvation by Faith,” how is “salvation” defined?
4. Martin Luther, the Continental Reformer, focused on justification by faith. Do you think it is significant that this manifesto of the Methodist Revival is termed, “salvation by faith,” instead of “justification by faith”? Wesley later wrote a sermon on justification by faith. Yet the first of the standard sermons was on the term, salvation. Think about it. Why?
5. What do you think about Wesley placing so much importance on the Early Church Fathers as reliable commentators on the New Testament?
6. Are you surprised that political events figured so prominently in the English Reformation? If Isaiah interpreted Cyrus as fulfilling the purposes of God for Israel (Isaiah 44:28), is it possible that God used Henry VIII to allow for the rise of Methodism and “spreading scriptural holiness across these lands”? Comment.
7. What do you think of the idea of Wesleyans being "modified Anglicans," not "modified Calvinists"?
8. Comment on the idea that English Reformers, by going back to the early Greek Fathers, set the stage for an emphasis upon the doctrine of sanctification in Wesley, noting particularly the doctrine of the Trinity and the emphasis upon the Holy Spirit.
9. Why does Wesley warn against “solifidianism”?
10. Why did Wesley’s sermons serve as the standard of doctrine? What precedent was he following from the English Reformation?
11. How many sermons do you think Wesley really intended to serve as the standard sermons? Why?