

Discussion Questions for the week of November 15th

BIG IDEA:

This year is the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther posting 95 theses to the roman catholic door. He called out corruption that was deep seeded in the church- selling forgiveness, selling indulgences, you name it. Today we live in a culture that is running far from God and there are bodies of 'Christians' selling the idea that following Christ is showing up on Sundays, involvement in faith based activities, and checking boxes to be "good enough". This year we are putting our own nail on the door. We are going to radically love and follow Jesus by following what His word says is true. God will use somebody this year to reawaken His "Big C Church", why not us?

ICE BREAKER

What is a thanksgiving tradition or thanksgiving dish that you love?

Let's read Romans 10:1-4 aloud. (Note: this written way before the reformation. This is Paul talking about how the Jews have got their views on salvation all mixed up.)

1. If Paul were to write us a letter now as a small group, what would he say about our energy/zeal for Christ? Do we possess any, is it 'misdirected', where have we got it wrong?
2. If you were at WAKE the last couple of Sundays or even at Small Group last week, you maybe remember some of the names of the modern Reformers we remember today. In what ways was Jesus the original reformer? Who was teaching an untrue message of who God is? (It's ok if they're unsure we will see answer in rest of Romans 10.)
3. Look at Romans 10 verse 4 again, how is it that Christ could end the law?
4. Read Romans 10:5-9, what is it the Israelites thought they needed to be saved? What did they need (vs 9&10)?
5. What are things you've believed you needed to do or partake in to be saved? Have there been lies you've believed about our faith? Another way to phrase this- when are times you feel "not good enough"? Or like a "bad Christian"?
6. What is the essence of a life following Jesus? How does someone who is daily believing in their heart that He is Lord live?
7. What does it look like to go through the day verbally confessing that Jesus is Lord?
8. What if living that way gets you socially shunned? What if that makes people roll their eyes at you? What if people find you annoying? Then what?

Read 1 Peter 4:12-16

9. In verse 12 why would Peter encourage us to not be surprised?
10. How would we not be ashamed and live confessing aka proclaiming Jesus is Lord to all?
11. What should we expect in response? (John 16:33)
12. In Psalm 139:24, David pleads with the Lord to search David's heart and reveal 'grievous ways' about him and bring David back to God's way. How could we do that for each person individually and also how would God reveal that to our Small Group or to our Jr High Ministry?
13. Are you willing to REFORM your mind/wrong beliefs/heart that's far from God?

*If you have extra time you can pick one of the bottom sections (still pasted below) from last week's DQs OR you can pick some of the 5 "solos" and have the group start memorizing and explaining.

Read Ephesians 5:22-29 -look specifically at each mention of Church. If people are marking in their own bibles maybe put a cross on top of each reference to church.

What is the church/ Who makes up the church? (More than a building)

What is the relationship with Christ and the church?

Who is authority over the Church?

What relationship does scripture use to demonstrate how Jesus feels about the church?

If you remember from Harrison's message- who had the Church, wrongly, made their authority?

Where should church get authority?

Read Revelation 2:1-9

Who is being addressed?

In verses 2-3 what are they good at?

What is their offense? What have they forsaken?

What is the purpose of the Church and why do we go? What does it mean to be the Church?

What is the essence of Christian Living?

What is the first love?

Could this be written to us?

What are works or religious type deeds that we do to try to please God or "earn" favor/ salvation?

Like in verse 5, how would you repent and come back to the "first love"

Have you seen some around you live out their faith in a way that inspires you? Share a story or example of how someone you know is seeking to live out the gospel and bring reform to the world around them.

Memory Verses:

Sola Scriptura- Only the Bible. 2 Timothy 3:16-17

Sola Gratia- Only Grace. Ephesians 2:8-9

Sola Fide- Only Faith. Romans 1:17

Silas Christus- Only Christ. Colossians 1:15-23

Soli Deo Gloria- Glory is only God's. Romans 11:36