

Week of September 16, 2018

This Week's Focus: Core Values & The Kingdom of God

This Week's Text: 2 Samuel 2:1-11

<u>Mission Statement:</u> We exist to glorify God by living on mission with Him in making disciples through gospel-centered worship, transformation and community.

Core Values

Eternity: Gospel Redemption – We are a gathering of Christ-followers who have been redeemed by the precious blood of Christ that brings us back into a right relationship with an eternal God through the gospel for God's glory and our joy.

Identity: Gospel Transformation – We are a gathering of Christ-followers who, by the gospel of grace are constantly applying the truth of our new gospel identity in humility and repentance for real gospel change.

Community: Gospel Restoration – We are a gathering of Christ-followers who live together working out the gospel implications with one another, and scatter into the world to demonstrate and proclaim the good news of Jesus.

Observations and Questions for Discussion:

- What has the Holy Spirit impressed on your heart and mind from this week's sermon/text? What
 have you learned more clearly about yourself and about God?
- Why did God create human beings? What does it mean to be created in the image and likeness of God ("Imago Dei") (Genesis 1:26-27)?
- What were the consequences of Adam and Eve's sin (Genesis 3:16-24; Romans 5:12)? What is the greatest need of every person?
- What does it mean to be redeemed (Colossians 1:13 and Romans 3:21-25)? How does
 genuine heart transformation take place? Discuss the difference between living under the law
 (human religion) and sanctification by the gospel of grace (Galatians 5:18).
- Discuss the reality and implications of your new identity in Christ. How does the gospel answer the problems of hate, racism, inferiority, superiority, etc.?

- What does it mean that gospel community is both monastic (gathering) and missional (scattering)? Discuss the meaning and implication of living together in gospel community (1 Peter 2:4-12). How does our understanding of the gospel, or lack of it, directly influence the way we live in community?
- Read Genesis 1:26 and 2:18-20. Discuss:
 - o God's communal Trinitarian nature.
 - Our need for community even within perfect humanity. Adam's need for community was before sin entered the world.
- What is the mission that God has called us to (Matthew 28:18-20 and 2 Corinthians 5:17-21)?
 What are some of the ways that we reflect the gospel in our communities? Share some obstacles you encounter.
- What is significant about the place David is coronated king? What is the blessing David bestows on the messengers of Jabesh-Gilead? What invitation follows his blessing?
- What does it mean that the Kingdom of God is first and foremost about a King? What is the Church's role in the Kingdom of God? Discuss how the demonstration and proclamation of the gospel are acts of spiritual warfare (Ephesians 6:10, 2 Corinthians 10:3-6).