

SERMON: Confronting the claims of Christ and the cross of Christ

June 9, 2019

SERIES: Conversations with Jesus

SPEAKER: Pastor Brady

THE GOAL: The primary goal of a small group at Grace is to develop a Christian community where Jesus is experienced through the gospel.

ACCOUNTABILITY QUESTIONS: Use these questions to explore how God is at work in our families, communities, workplaces, and church.

1. Where have you seen God at work in your life this week?
2. What temptations have you been facing this week? How is God delivering you?
3. How have you experienced God's grace this week?
4. In what ways are you growing in your love for God?
5. In what ways are you growing in your love for others?
6. Have you started or stopped something this week just because you love Jesus?

SCRIPTURE: John 8:12-30.

SERMON OUTLINE: I. The Claims of Christ II. The Cross of Christ

REVIEW: Use these questions to better understand and apply the passage/sermon.

Observation: as a group talk through and summarize the passage. Think through Who, What, Where, When, How, Why questions together.

Interpretation: answer these questions together:

1. What does this passage teach us about God?
2. What does this passage teach us about us (mankind)?
3. What does this passage teach us about salvation/grace?
4. How does this passage point to Christ?

Application: answer these questions together:

1. How does this passage convict you? Encourage you? Inspire you?
2. What specific truth do you see about God (his grace? love? holiness?) and how would your life be different if you really believed it?
3. By God's grace, what commitments do you need to make this week? Or, what do you need to start obeying/believing?

GO DEEPER: Use these questions to go deeper into the passage, minds, and hearts.

1. In John 8:25 the Jews ask Jesus "who are you?" Who do YOU think Jesus is? Or, if Jesus asked you "Who do you say that I am? How would you answer?"
2. Read John 1:12. Jesus says he is the Light of Life for the world. Also throughout the passage he claims to be the I AM (see verse 24 and 28). How do these claims encourage you? How do they challenge you?
3. In John 8:21 and 24 Jesus says that we will die in our sin if we don't believe in him. If you died today would you die in your sin? If not, why not?
4. In John 8:28 Jesus points to his death as the proof that his claims are true. In 1 Corinthians 15:17 Paul points to the resurrection as the proof that our faith is true. Is your own faith rooted in the death and resurrection of Christ? Have you had any opportunities to share about Christ's death and resurrection with others?

Prayer: Praise Jesus for being the great I AM. Praise God for sending Jesus to rescue us from our sin through faith in him. Thanks God for the death and resurrection of Jesus. Ask God to give you opportunities to lovingly confront people with the claims of Christ and the cross of Christ.