

Sunday, October 17, 2021 - "Relationship Matters - Week 6 - Christ Alone" - Doug Kempton

Key Passages: Philippians 3:1-11, Galatians 3:1-6, Genesis 17:14, Psalm 127:1-2

- Feel free to read the passage(s) out loud as a group
- Allow the group to share freely about what stood out to them from the passage or from Sunday's message

Main Ideas

- Focus on humility
- Cultural context of Philippians can be lost on us
 - There were devout Jewish people coming to Christ and they were asking "What do we do with our heritage?"
 - They thought it was faith in Jesus AND following of the Jewish law (Jesus and circumcision)
- Galatians 3:1-6
 - Paul asks "Who has bewitched you?"
 - It makes sense why it would be difficult for the Jewish people
 - Genesis 17:14 - it seems pretty clear how important circumcision was
- But Jesus came to free us from the law
- A common pitfall: any time we put confidence on the flesh, we are on shaky ground
- Beware of any belief, practice, or teaching that dilutes the power of the cross - Doug Kempton
- We find something to add to the gospel (Philippians 3:3b - put no confidence in the flesh...if anyone could, it was Paul)
- Rubbish = Greek word that means human waste
 - Paul says anything that competes with Christ is a loss
 - If we do good things for the wrong reasons it is rubbish
- Rejoice in the Lord (word translated as rejoice can also be glory)
 - Glory = all of your confidence in someone or something
 - Not confidence in our accomplishments/talents
- The purpose behind the things we do is what really matters (what is our motivation?)
 - No earning
 - To grow up we have to show up
 - Called to WORK OUT our salvation not WORK FOR our salvation
 - Spiritual activities and disciplines are a means to an end
 - We get to practice these things (6 essentials, baptism, communion)
- Humility is the recognition that we are incapable of saving ourselves...life is a gift
- Where is your confidence? What do you trust?
- Psalm 127:1-2
- Our prayer/devotional life/sabbath/rest/generosity/tithe reveal our understanding of how dependent we are on Christ (James 4:6, 10)
- Humility drives to prayer and obedience

Questions (Feel free to use all of these, some of these, or none of these)

1. When was a time you placed confidence in the flesh? What has God taught you about relying on yourself?
2. When you really think about it, what do you tend to add to the gospel? Jesus and _____?
3. How have you experienced the difference between spiritual discipline as the end goal versus being a means to an end?
4. What competes for your trust other than Jesus?
5. What does it look like to find all of your confidence in Christ?
6. What is God inviting you into as a result of this passage or sermon?

****15 Minutes with God Reading Plan-**

Mon: Jonah 3 Tues: Jonah 4 Wed: Philippians 1 Thurs: Philippians 2 Fri: Philippians 3

Songs from the weekend: [You Are Good - Israel Houghton] - [Graves Into Gardens - Elevation Worship] - [New Wine - Hillsong Worship] - [Promises - Maverick City Music]