



Dig Deeper @Home – “Tough Questions”

Complement to sermon -09/16/2018 – “What if Someone Never Hears about Jesus?”

ICE BREAKER – ask these to open dialogue and learn more about those gathered

1. When you were young, which of your parents was stricter? More merciful? Consistent?
2. Among your relatives, who comes closest to being the family’s spiritual “patriarch?”

MEMORIZE – 1st Peter 3:15

But in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect

READ – Romans 3:9-31

Questions to ponder/discuss:

1. What does this passage reveal about God? About humanity?
2. If the above is true, what needs to change in your life?
3. In verses 9-10, what does Paul say about the “righteousness” of any group of people?
4. According to verses 19-20, what is the Law’s purpose? When did you first become aware of your sinfulness and need for God?
5. As you read 3:21-26, who does Paul say is ‘accountable before God’? Can anyone come to God apart from faith in Christ? Why or Why not?
6. How is righteousness from God (3:22-24) different from righteousness by law (2:5-13)? What does it mean to have faith in Jesus?
7. Read Romans 10:12-17. What do these verses say about what is necessary for persons to hear and believe in Jesus?

Summarize Romans 3:9-31 in your own words:

Experiential: Telephone Game

Have your group or family sit in a circle or stand in a straight line. They need to be close enough that whispering is possible, but not so close that players can hear each other whisper.

The first person in the line or circle whispers a phrase into the ear of the person sitting or standing to their right. Players whisper the phrase to their neighbors until it reaches the last player in line. The last player says the word or phrase out loud so everyone can hear how much it has changed from the first whisper at the beginning of the circle or line.

Talk together about how important and difficult it was to listen carefully to the person speaking to you. Discuss how important it is to listen and to speak to those who do not know Jesus? Share how easy or difficult that is for you to do.

Testimony Time

What difference has the gospel made in your life?

SING (suggested songs to sing. Use these or any song you might want to sing)

In Christ alone - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AjR_A2pGPrY

I Love to tell the Story - Mennonite Hymnal #593

PRAY

This is a time to gather around for prayer requests and to share how you have seen God at work. A time to hear where God is showing up in our lives and where we need Him to help us in our lives.

Sending prayer based on the lesson:

I praise you Lord, for your merciful kindness and love. You could have abandoned us and left us to die in our sin apart from you. But instead, you sent your Son Jesus to lead us to repentance. O God may we never take your kindness for granted. And may you give us the zeal and the faith to go and to share the Good News we have found with those who have never heard the Gospel. For your glory and for the salvation of all those you love and gave your life for. In Jesus Name, Amen.