



Dig Deeper @Home – “Tough Questions”

Complement to sermon -09/23/2018 – “Is my suffering the result of having little faith?”

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

1. Would you rather travel back in time to meet your ancestors or travel forward in time to meet your descendants?
2. Would you rather be a master at every musical instrument or fluent in every language?

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 5

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. Chapter 5 begins with “therefore” which indicates Paul’s statement is connected to what he wrote before. Read chapter 4. How does reading chapter 4 impact your understanding of 5:1?
4. What is the connection between faith and hope? Why does this matter?
5. What is the Christian’s hope ultimately anchored in? What difference does this make in your daily life?
6. Multiple times in chapter 5 Paul talks about “rejoicing.” What are we to rejoice in? How often do you rejoice in these things? When was the last time? How could you rejoice in these things daily?

Summarize Romans 5 in your own words:

Experiential: Party time

Have a celebration. Make it fun. Make it good. Make it memorable. Why? Because the grace of God in Jesus Christ is worth celebrating. Have a meal of favorite foods with friends and/or family. Have music playing if you like and take time sharing/reflecting on the reality of being “justified by Jesus” (Romans 5). Be sure to read Romans 5 at the party and then take time and rejoice together in song and prayer. When your kids/friends/family ask why you are having this party, take the time to point to Jesus.

Testimony Time

What difference has Jesus made in your life?

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

Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery -

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YqWilp_KLUc

Lord, I am Fondly, Earnestly – Mennonite Hymnal #585

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.