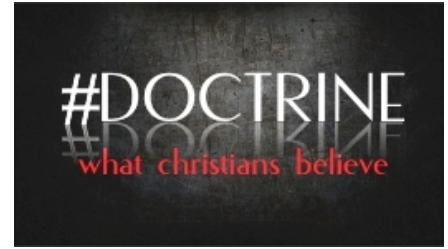




Sermon Discussion Guide




“Grace for the Fallen”

Romans 5:12-21

Rev. Brandon Laurantzon, June 28 & 29, 2014

Step 1: Reflect on the Text

Why do we do this first? We always want to start with the Bible. The goal is to meditate on the Word and read it with an ear sensitive to the Holy Spirit’s promptings. Look for words or phrases that stand out through logic, repetition, layout, etc.

-  Read Romans 5:12-21. What stood out to you? What did you find interesting and/or important? What was challenging or caused you to have questions?

Step 2: Reflect on the Sermon

INTRODUCTION

- 1 Brandon said, “Things are not the way they are supposed to be.” Can you give an example from your own life that illustrates this truth? What was the point of the story of “The Cellist of Sarajevo?”
- 2 Summarize the *Big Idea* of the sermon in *one phrase or sentence* (Note: this is not the same as listing the main points). In other words, if someone woke you up at 3am on Monday morning and asked, “What was the sermon about on Sunday?” what would you say in the midst of your sleepy haze?

SIN AND RIGHTEOUSNESS

- 3 Why is the concept of sin and sinners abhorrent to our culture? What is a trespass, and what effect do our trespasses have on our relationship with God?

- 4 What was the takeaway of the kid who thought he could leap across the grand canyon and the man who thought he had enough points to get into heaven? What are some things that people do in an attempt to earn God's favor?
- 5 What is righteousness? How do you get it?

DEATH AND ETERNAL LIFE

- 6 What are some ways that we try to deny and downplay the reality of death.
- 7 Why was it actually kind of God to kick Adam and Eve out of the garden? Read 1 Corinthians 15:22 and John 11:25-26. How would you explain the Christian's hope of eternal life to an unbeliever?

CONDEMNATION AND JUSTIFICATION

- 8 In your own words, how would you define condemnation?
- 9 In your own words, how would you explain justification? What was the point of the story about the student who snuck onto the court of the ACC championship game?
- 10 Did taking the Lord's Supper impact you? If it didn't, why not?

Step 3: Final Reflections

- ✠ How has your understanding, appreciation, and love for Jesus and the gospel grown as a result of this study?
- ♥ In what areas of faith and practice are you feeling convicted by the Holy Spirit to act as a result of this study?