

OUR WORSHIP CELEBRATION MAY 2, 2021

Prelude

~The instrumental cue to gather and prepare for worship

Welcome

***Call to Worship - Psalm 24**

~God's invitation for us to engage in worship in the Holy Spirit

***Weekly Congregational Response**

~Our humble response to God's call to worship

***Prayer of Invocation**

~The giving of thanks for God's promised presence and work among us

***Song of Preparation and Praise - All Creatures of Our God and King**

~Our celebration of God as our good and faithful Abba Father

***Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon - Romans 1:16-17**

~Our admission of our failures and need for Christ as Savior

***Prayer in Response to Our Assurance of Pardon**

***Song of Comfort - All Must Be Well**

~Our praise of Jesus as our Savior

Pastoral Prayer - Mwamba Johnson, Vision Collegiate Ministries and David Donovan, Grace Covenant Church, Dallas GA

~Our prayer for the church gathered near and far

Sermon - The Gospel: The Power of God for Salvation to Everyone Who Believes Romans 1:16-17

***Song of Response - Come to the Feast**

~Our commitment to apply God's Word in and through our lives

***Announcements**

~Weekly opportunities to live out the Word read, confessed, prayed, sung, and preached

***Benediction - Romans 5:1-5**

~God's parting blessing as we are sent out on His redemptive mission

*Stand

“THE GOSPEL: THE POWER OF GOD FOR SALVATION TO EVERYONE WHO BELIEVES” ROMANS 1:16-17

Key Truth: We should not be ashamed of the Gospel, because it is the power of God for salvation offered without distinction in Christ alone by faith alone through His grace alone.

Introduction:

Q: *What aspects of Christianity are you ashamed of? How has this affected your view of the power of the Gospel?*

Romans 1:16-17: The Gospel: The Power of God for Salvation to Everyone Who Believes:

“The Gospel is NOT merely a legal or business transaction, a rescue plan, something that we do, the movement from rebel to righteous, related to a single historical moment in time, or the work of Jesus apart from God or the Spirit. Even the oft quoted “Jesus saves sinners” as short hand for the gospel is limited and doesn’t communicate the Gospel’s full beauty. While each of these has elements of truth, they are not the whole truth. The Gospel is the power of God for the total salvation of everyone who believes and the restoration of all things on a cosmic scale—as written in **Romans 8**. More fully, God the Creator has acted according to His will to deliver us, His created sons and daughters, from our sins and restore us to Him. He did this by sending His Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life on the cross for the sins of his people satisfying His wrath toward sin. Jesus was then raised from the dead to grant us newness of life in the resurrection, ascended to heaven where he continues to intercede for us, and will return again to make all things new and glorious. In summary, you are not being saved FROM God, but you are being saved TO God! He has pursued you in Christ so that you may dwell in and be blessed by His presence for all of eternity!...

It is critical to keep in view that salvation is not only about what you don’t do but is more about what you do or how you now live in freedom in Christ. Jesus came to grant God’s children life more abundant! This glorious salvation includes past, present, and future realities (justification/adoption, sanctification, and glorification). The Gospel brings us all the way home to dwell with and enjoy God for eternity and assures us of God’s love, giving us peace and joy as the Holy Spirit guides us in grace and perseverance. This is not just good news; it is GREAT news!”

CCC Membership, Session 1: Critical Concept: The Gospel (the Good News)

Q: *Why should you not be ashamed of the Gospel?*

Application:

Romans 1:16-17 teaches us that:

-we should not be ashamed of the Gospel, because it is the power of God for salvation offered without distinction in Christ alone by faith alone through His grace alone

Communion

Benediction: *Romans 5:1-5*