

The Facilitator

Community Groups @ Trinity Presbyterian Church

5/20/18

Text: Romans 9:2-5, 10:1-4, 18-21 & 11:1-2a, 5-6 (ESV)

Title: Sorrow Mixed with Hope Over Others' Unbelief

Teacher: Josh Floyd

Surrender through Prayer:

Surrender through prayers for Illumination and Transformation, asking that Jesus would meet with you in this time.

Engage with the Sermon

Read the passage together

In his sermon, Josh took us through Romans 10 as we looked at Paul's engagement with the unbelief of God's people, Israel. As we saw, those who consider themselves to be the most "religious" can often be at risk of living completely separated from a relationship with God, depending more on their practices than on an actual relationship with Jesus. We can often treat faith in Jesus like a seatbelt, knowing it's a good idea, but living dependent on our ability to avoid an accident, rather than dependent on the one thing designed to save our life. In the face of unbelief we often tend to either live superior to others, in judgement over them, or live inferior and giving license for people to do whatever makes them happy. What we really need, and what every unbelieving person we encounter needs, is not a list of "to-do's" to fix their life, nor a license to let go and live how we want; we need the blood of Jesus. No matter how put together, or messy our life is, we desperately need Jesus to save us and be our only source of hope. And, we need to be grieved by the lost-ness and brokenness in ourselves and others, so that we can't help but proclaim our faith in Christ to everyone we meet.

Reflection Questions:

- 1. Josh told the story about his friend who doesn't like to wear a seatbelt because it's uncomfortable and a bother, and he doesn't plan on getting in an accident anyway. As Josh said, we often treat our Christian life and faith the same way.*
 - How have you treated your faith like a seatbelt, where you only need to wear it when there's a problem, and you can ignore it when it's uncomfortable?**
- 2. Josh said we often have a hard time believing certain people can be saved because their lives are so far away from what we think of as "Christian," either in brokenness, or in worldliness.*
 - Who in your life have you treated as if their beyond saving?**
 - What "Christian" practices in your life make you feel superior or inferior, and have gotten in the way of you developing a real relationship with Jesus?**
- 3. God was so grieved by the unbelief and separation of his people, that he not only wished he could trade places with them, he actually did in the person of Jesus; condemned on their behalf to bring them into true relationship with his Father.*
 - What keeps you from being grieved over the unbelief in those around you?**
 - What do you need to let go of in order for God to use you to proclaim his gospel to everyone?**

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WORSHIP AND PRAYER:

A.C.T.S.

(Spend time in prayer and worship as you consider Adoring God the Father, Confessing your sin and weakness, giving thanks to Jesus, and asking Holy Spirit to transform you. Use this as a time to talk to God about what's been revealed in your heart from this sermon.)

1. ADORATION *(The Father)*

Adore and Worship God for His attributes and actions

2. CONFESSION *(Me)*

Spend time Confessing sin and ways in which you are finite and limited

3. THANKSGIVING *(Jesus)*

Give thanks to Jesus for his salvation (past, present, future)

4. SUPPLICATION *(Holy Spirit)*

Ask Holy Spirit to transform you in specific ways

5. Prepare for Gospel Community *(My Neighbor)*

Pray for those who are on your heart, that God would use you to impact them with His gospel message.

Prayer Items

- 1. Worship the LORD for His faithfulness, goodness and power! Praise Him Father, Son and Holy Spirit for His mercy and grace shown to people like you and me!*
- 2. Confess to Jesus the ways in which you have not allowed yourself to be moved by or to experience the sorrow over the "lostness" of your neighbors. Confess ways in which you have not believed that hope or salvation were even possible for certain people.*
- 3. Give thanks to God for Him rescuing us from the bondage of sin and death through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. Thank Him that He is a God who pursues us and that He has been found by those who didn't seek Him.*
- 4. Who in your life thinks that they know Jesus but their life does not bear any fruit or resemble how a Christian should act in any way? Pray that the Lord would grab hold of their hearts and regenerate them. Pray for God-ordained conversations to take place between the two of you.*
- 5. Pray that the Holy Spirit would continue to give you eyes to see the "lostness" of those around you. And pray that you would be moved to sorrow mixed with hope and that you would have a willingness to enter into their story. Also, pray that the Holy Spirit would embolden you to push past fear and have gospel-centered conversations with your neighbors.*