

The Facilitator

Community Groups @ Trinity Presbyterian Church

9/17/17

Text: Romans 1:1-7 (ESV)

Title: The Gospel Welcome

Teacher: Tim Rice

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

Tim began our series on the book of Romans discussing the Roman Empire in chapter 1. The Roman Empire was one of the largest empires to ever exist, and created a power structure where you either bowed to the Emperor Caesar, or you were killed or put into slavery. Very similar to the empires in our lives, you either succeed in them, or you are cast out of them. In contrast, we saw that Jesus, who is the greater Emperor and King of all creation, did not demand submission and threaten slavery, but instead, he became a servant, a slave in our place, so that we who are enslaved to our sin could be freed and have a relationship with His Father forever.

Reflection Questions:

1. *Tim said the “crack” in the empires of this world are that they 1. Never Last, and 2. Don’t forgive. Something or someone else will always come along to conquer them, and their loyalty is only to one thing (power, beauty, money), and so they can’t forgive failure.*
 - **What “empires” do you live and work in?**
 - **What is demanded of you in either your allegiance or your performance? (looks, sales, \$, production, performance...etc.)**
2. *Tim said we have two wrong responses to the gospel of Jesus as King. Either our life is going pretty well and Jesus doesn’t seem to offer us anything, or our life has been so hard there can’t be enough hope to overcome our agony.*
 - **What areas of your life are going so well that you live as if you don’t need Jesus in them?**
 - **What areas of your life feel so broken you’re not sure Jesus could ever overcome them?**
3. *Jesus, the Emperor became the lowest of slaves (“doulos”) not to judge us or crucify us, but so that he would be crucified for us and offer his grace to any who would come and welcome his people into a kingdom that will last forever.*
 - **How does Jesus becoming a “doulos” help you see his power to offer you something so much better than anything in this world, and overcome any agony you could face in this life?**

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WORSHIP AND PRAYER:

A.C.T.S.

(Spend time in prayer and worship as a group 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 during your discussion.)

1. ADORATION (Father)

Adore and Worship God for His attributes and actions

2. CONFESSION (Me)

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

3. THANKSGIVING (Son)

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

4. SUPPLICATION (Holy Spirit)

Ask Holy Spirit to transform you in specific ways

Prepare for Gospel Community:

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