

The Facilitator

Community Groups @ Trinity Presbyterian Church

5/19/19

Text: Acts 2:14-41

Title: Resurrection - A New Hope

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

In his sermon, Tim talked to us about the new hope that is found in Jesus. As we saw in Acts 2, when the crowds heard the disciples all speaking in various languages the Apostle Peter stood in their midst and declared the hope of the gospel to them. Without pulling any punches, he recounts to them the promises from Scripture that are fulfilled in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus, and proclaims that they are the ones who crucified him. In the face of this reality, without hope, they ask Peter, "What can we do?" And Peter declares that there is hope, even for those who killed God's son. So often we can live as if there are lines of sin drawn in the sand, and once you cross them, there's no coming back. There's no hope for that broken of a sinner. But the beauty of the gospel is that there is no one outside the reach of God's mercy and love. We are guilty of far worse things than we imagine (namely Blasphemy and Treason against a perfect God). But we are not without hope. The amazing reality of transformation is seen even in the life of the speaker. Peter, who had just weeks prior denied Jesus 3 times to a young slave girl, was now declaring Jesus, the Messiah and Son of God. The truth is that there's hope for us, even us. And if there's hope for us, there's hope for anyone.

Reflection Questions:

1. *Tim said God exists with three characteristics: Wisdom, Power and Goodness. In our frailty we forget that is true, and we lose hope.*
 - ***Which aspect who God is do you struggle with the most? What kind of God do we have if you take 1 away?***
2. *Contrary to the liberal or conservative, the 3rd way of the gospel declares, "You're utterly wrong, AND there's real, lasting Hope for you."*
 - ***What are the lines of sin/brokenness that you've drawn for yourself or others?***
 - ***Where is the "point of no return" from which there is no coming back?***
3. *If there's hope even for those who killed God's son, then there's hope for anyone.*
 - ***How have you disbelieved God's ability to change your heart, or change someone else's heart?***
 - ***Where do you need to repent of pride or unbelief?***

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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

- *Worship the LORD for His Almighty transforming power. Praise Him, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, for His sovereign power to create all existence and to transform us by redemption.*

2. CONFESSION *(Me)*

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

- *How have you lived cynically, doubting that someone (even you) could come back from profound failure? Confess your pride and unbelief to Jesus, asking Him to forgive you and to change your heart.*

3. THANKSGIVING *(Jesus)*

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

- *Give thanks to Jesus for His wisdom, power and love. Thank Him for wisely working even through death, for powerfully conquering death by His resurrection and for His love to go through it all to save sinners like us.*

4. SUPPLICATION *(Holy Spirit)*

Ask Holy Spirit to transform you in specific ways

- *Who do you know that is cynical or hopeless? Pray for them, asking the Lord to give them hope, especially in light of His mercy to do so much to save His own enemies.*

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.

- *Ask the Holy Spirit to bear in you the fruit of joy and goodness. Pray that the Spirit would help you be joyful and hopeful in light of Jesus' wisdom, power and love, and that you could convey this to others.*