

Living Water Fellowship

3^d Sunday in Easter – 14th April 2024

COME TO JESUS

GATHERING SONG: Goodness of God (*Maranatha*)

PRAYER OF THE DAY & WELCOME:

SONG: The Lord is By My Side (*CityAlight*)

GROW IN HIS GRACE

BIBLE READING: Galatians 2:16-21

¹⁶ We know that a person is made right with God by faith in Jesus Christ, not by obeying the law. And we have believed in Christ Jesus, so that we might be made right with God because of our faith in Christ, not because we have obeyed the law. For no one will ever be made right with God by obeying the law.”

¹⁷ But suppose we seek to be made right with God through faith in Christ & then we are found guilty because we have abandoned the law. Would that mean Christ has led us into sin? Absolutely not! ¹⁸ Rather, I am a sinner if I rebuild the old system of law I already tore down. ¹⁹ For when I tried to keep the law, it condemned me. So I died to the law—I stopped trying to meet all its requirements—so that I might live for God. ²⁰ My old self has been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me. So I live in this earthly body by trusting in the Son of God, who loved me & gave himself for me. ²¹ I do not treat the grace of God as meaningless. For if keeping the law could make us right with God, then there was no need for Christ to die.

CHILDREN'S TIME

FAITH CHAT:

1. Why do some people have the misunderstanding that Christianity is really all about following rules or doing more good than bad?
2. How would you lovingly correct that misunderstanding using an example from your own life?

THE MESSAGE: *LIVING EXCLUSIVELY...IN CHRIST*

OFFERING SONG: I Want to Know You (*CityAlight*)

PRAYERS:

OUR CHRISTIAN CONFESSION:

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, & sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty, from thence he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE COMMUNION:

Words of Institution & The Lord's Prayer:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, & the glory are yours now & forever. Amen.

Worship during Communion: What the Lord has Done in Me (Reuben Morgan)

GO IN HIS POWER

BLESSING:

**† _____, child of God,
Christ lives in you!**

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

SONG: Jesus Strong & Kind (*CityAlight & Colin Buchanan*)

SHOW HIS LOVE

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Group Bible Study/Discussion:

1. Read Galatians 2:16-21. What strikes you in this part of Paul's letter? What questions come to mind? How might this have sounded to the first recipients of this letter?
2. Three times in this section of his letter, Paul asserts we are not justified (made right with God) by observing the law, but by our faith in Christ. How is it possible to be justified if we haven't done anything to earn it?
3. If keeping the law can't save me, what is it for? Why does Paul say that if I expend myself trying to live by/keep the law I demonstrate that Jesus died for nothing or there was no need for him to die?
4. What does "dying to the law" mean in 2:19? What is the significance of having been crucified with Christ? How does that happen in a disciple's life? What does it mean to God? What does it mean to you? What effect should this have on your daily life?
5. What is the problem with legalism? What makes it different from the gospel?
6. How are Christians to approach the Old Testament, and particularly things like the 10 Commandments? Are they still applicable now that we are forgiven in Christ? What happens if we simply ignore all that the Old Testament offers to us?
7. What does it mean to be crucified with Christ? What kind of life are we to live if we no longer live, but Christ lives in us? How can you live this transformed life in Christ this coming week? Where will you be over the next seven days? Pray that God makes his resurrected life visible in your words & deeds.
8. If Christ's death & resurrection are the "true north & axis" for your life, what does that look like in daily living? How do you talk about that way of living around those who do not share your faith in Christ?
9. Read Romans 6:2-6. The assumption throughout the New Testament letters is that being buried & raised with Jesus by baptism & faith will produce a life in you that imitates the life of Jesus Christ. What do you think Paul would offer to you as a gentle corrective or even a stern rebuke about how "Christ in you" appears to the outside world?
10. Are there times when you feel insecure in your relationship with God? What might lead someone to feel that way? If those times come, how do you reconnect with the Father in a way that you could share with someone else?