

Living Water Fellowship

Lake Run -n- Ride Lunch Study

16th Sunday after Pentecost – 28th September 2025

COME TO JESUS

Gathering Song & Welcome: Rejoice, the Lord is King!

Table Prayer:

GROW IN HIS GRACE

"First Course" of the Meal

Bible Reading: John 1:1-5, 9-14 & 18

¹ In the beginning the Word already existed.

The Word was with God, & the Word was God.

² He existed in the beginning with God.

³ God created everything through him, & nothing was created except through him.

⁴ The Word gave life to everything that was created, & his life brought light to everyone.

⁵ The light shines in the darkness, & the darkness can never extinguish it.

⁹ The one who is the true light, who gives light to everyone, was coming into the world.

¹⁰ He came into the very world he created, but the world didn't recognize him. ¹¹ He came to his own people, & even they rejected him. ¹² But to all who believed him; those who received him, he gave the right to become children of God. ¹³ They are reborn—not with a physical birth resulting from human passion or plan, but a birth that comes from God.

¹⁴ So the Word became human & made his home among us. He was full of grace & truth. And we have seen his glory, the glory of the Father's one & only Son.

¹⁸ No one has ever seen God. But the One & only Son, who is himself God, is near to the Father's heart. He has revealed God to us.

Bible Reading: Romans 1:18-23 & 28-32

¹⁸ But God's wrath is revealed from heaven against all sinful, wicked people who suppress the truth by their wickedness. ¹⁹ They know the truth about God because he has made it obvious to them. ²⁰ For ever since the world was created, people have seen the earth & sky. Through everything God made, they can clearly see his invisible qualities—his eternal power & divine nature. So they have no excuse for not knowing God.

²¹ Yes, they knew God, but they wouldn't worship him as God or even give him thanks. So they began to think up foolish ideas of what God was like. As a result, their minds became dark & confused. ²² Claiming to be wise, they instead became utter fools. ²³ Instead of worshiping the glorious, ever-living God, they worshiped idols made to look like mere people & birds & animals & reptiles.

²⁸ Since they thought it foolish to acknowledge God, he abandoned them to their foolish thinking & let them do things that should never be done. ²⁹ Their lives became full of every kind of wickedness, sin, greed, hate, envy, murder, quarreling, deception, malicious behavior, & gossip. ³⁰ They are backstabbers, haters of God, insolent, proud, & boastful. They invent new ways of sinning, & they disobey their parents. ³¹ They refuse to understand, break their promises, are heartless, & have no mercy. ³² They know God's justice requires that those who do these things deserve to die, yet they do them anyway. Worse yet, they encourage others to do them, too.

Guided Bible Study: (PLEASE CONTINUE TO EAT AS WE STUDY & DISCUSS)
SINCE YOU ASKED...DOES GOD EXIST?

Offering (collected during the meal)

Prayers:

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 and forever. Amen.

GO IN HIS POWER

The Blessings:

*† _____, child of God,
Christ makes his presence real in your life.
Amen*

Announcements:

Song: Yet not I but through Christ in me

SHOW HIS LOVE

REMEMBER:

My life can give evidence that God is real, His Word is trustworthy,
His way is for life, & His love is eternal.

Continue praying through the week:

***Father prepare me for whatever you require today
and lead me in faith wherever you call me to go.
In Jesus' Name...Amen.***

Group Bible Study/Discussion:

1. Read John 1:1-18 & Romans 1:18-32. What questions immediately come to mind? What do you find most challenging? What really strikes you in these verses?
2. John 20:30-31 is the "signature" verse in the book of John. Read that in light of today's verses from John 1. How does John 1 lead toward "*life by the power of his name*"?
3. A key word in the book of John is the verb "believe." What does he say is the fruit of "believing"? Does John use "believe" as an active or passive verb? What would be the difference between the two?
4. What does John 1:1-2 tell us about the nature of Jesus? Why is that important? What is John saying about "light & life," in vv. 4-5? In what ways do you understand Jesus as both "light" AND "life"?
5. According to John, what is the clearest evidence of God? How do we know that is true?
6. Do you find it difficult to accept that God reveals wrath against those who reject him? Why or why not? How does Paul describe God's "wrath"? Romans 1:24, 26, & 28 describe how God's "wrath" operates in our world. How is that different from how we usually think of "wrath"?
7. When we actively avoid or suppress the truth of God, what is the result? How do you see that in today's world?
8. As the spiraling result of sin is described, consider how human conduct relates to the previous errors. How does the refusal to worship God lead to the worship of idols? How does that lead to immorality, etc.?
9. The truth is...There are only 2 options for our faith:
 - i. True worship of God the Father through Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit or
 - ii. Idolatry that sets the desires, devotion & worship of our hearts on something else.Either we worship God or something not-God. How would you discuss that with someone who denied there is any God at all?
10. How does our focus text from John 1:18 offer a foundation & guide for your own life in Christ AND provide a starting point for sharing your faith with someone else?
11. What for you is the "Take home lesson" of this word of God? How will you enact that in your own life?