

Worship

Sunday, October 10, 2010

I think all Christians would agree with me if I said that though Christianity seems at the first to be all about morality, all about duties and rules and guilt and virtue, yet it leads you on, out of all that into something beyond. One has a glimpse of a country where they do not talk of those things, except perhaps as a joke. Everyone there is filled full with what we should call goodness as a mirror filled with light. But they do not call it goodness. They do not call it anything. They are not thinking of it. They are too busy looking at the source from which it comes. (C. S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*)

And now in one hour's time, I will be out there again. I will raise my eyes and look down that corridor; 4 feet wide, with 10 lonely seconds to justify my existence. But will I? (Harold Abrahams, *Chariots of Fire*)

But my new routine has more to do with the path my career has taken. Before I got sick, I was the highest ranked American man [in ice skating]. One minute, it's the highest of highs, and then you're written off after one bad performance. I'm 25, and this could be my last realistic chance to be somebody who matters. (Johnny Weir, *Spirit Magazine*, January 2010)

Welcome

Prelude and Time for Reflection

Expressing Our Love and Praise: Worship in Song

Declaring What We Believe: Confession of Faith (Apostle's Creed, 4th c.)

Welcoming Each Other (Kids may go to their classrooms)

Community Together: Prayers of the People

Giving Back to God: Offering

Please use the section on the back and place it in the offering plate and we will let you know about up coming events.

Hearing God's Word: Scripture Reading Galatians 2.15-21

15 We ourselves are Jews by birth and not Gentile sinners; 16 yet we know that a person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, so we also have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ and not by works of the law, because by works of the law no one will be justified.

17 But if, in our endeavor to be justified in Christ, we too were found to be sinners, is Christ then a servant of sin? Certainly not! 18 For if I rebuild what I tore down, I prove myself to be a transgressor. 19 For through the law I died to the law, so that I might live to God. 20 I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. 21 I do not nullify the grace of God, for if righteousness were through the law, then Christ died for no purpose.

Understanding God's Word and Our Lives: Sermon

Freely Made to Matter

Outline:

1. What is the Essential Core of Christianity?
2. What are some Objections and a Problem with this?
3. What is the Solution?
4. Who did this?

Discussion:

What questions do you have of the text or what application do you see in it?



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Recognizing our Brokenness: Confession of Sin

Public Reading

Father, we confess that we need your help to realize how often and in how many different “courts” we seek to be justified by our performance. We differ from those with revealing public quotes only because we do not give voice to our desires and insecurities. Forgive us for having implied, if not believed, that Christ died for no reason.

Convince us that our works do not make us someone who “matters” here, much less with you in your court. Thank you that you justify us through faith in Christ. Grow in us a faith that focuses on Him, remains fixed on Him, believes all His faithfulness, and unites us to Him. May our currency be always tied to His that we might be abundantly rich in your presence and able to serve you boldly in all the places you put us today.

Private Reflection

Words of Forgiveness

Is the law then contrary to the promises of God? Certainly not! For if a law had been given that could give life, then righteousness would indeed be by the law. But the Scripture imprisoned everything under sin, so that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe. (Gal 3.21,22)

Remembering Jesus with Bread and Cup: Lord’s Supper

Jesus called those who find their life in His death and resurrection to receive the bread and cup as a tangible sign to remember and be strengthened by His Gospel. It is a spiritual meal for all who believe in Him.

On the first and third Sundays of the month, we come forward as families, groups and individuals to receive the bread and cup and for a prayer of blessing. The second, fourth and fifth Sundays, we remain seated, with time to personally remember Jesus’ death and resurrection for us with the bread and cup. Whether you take the elements or not, we encourage you to either come forward for prayer or use the time for personal reflection about your relationship with Jesus.

Juice is in the outer ring; wine is in inner rings.

Responding with Song

Taking hold of the Good Word: Benediction (“the good word”)

“May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and by his grace gave us eternal encouragement and good hope, encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good deed and word.” 2 Thess. 2: 16, 17

Prayers for Those Not Taking the Bread and Cup

Prayer for Those Searching for Truth

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reason for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me and open me to the reality of your identity. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life you promise. Amen.

Prayer of Belief

Lord Jesus Christ, I admit that I am more wicked and sinful than I ever dared allow, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt on the cross, to give me complete forgiveness and rightness with God. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, in joy I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior and Lord. Amen.

Prayer for Covenant Children (Not Yet Confirmed)

Lord Jesus, thank you for placing me inside your family, the church. Help me more and more to know you, to love you, and to follow you as your faithful disciple. Amen.



**Grace
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Grace Hill is a church that seeks to live by and testify to the grace and truth of Jesus Christ (see John 1.14-18). We are affiliated with the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, a denomination with a rich history of Christ’s grace and truth.

Our pastor is Ross Durham and can be reached by email at ross@gracehillchurch.net or by cell phone at 919.593.2169.

Our Worship Director is Michael Musser and our Children’s Ministry Co-Directors are Robyn Musser and Kaylyn Fernandez.

Address: 515 Meadowlands Drive, Ste. 500, Hillsborough, NC 27278

Phone: 919.617.1792

Web: www.gracehillchurch.net

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Group:Twitter: Gracehillchurch

Please let us know about your visit with us! Also feel free to ask any questions about Grace Hill:

Please send your name, email address, and mailing address via txt to 919 593 2169 or email to info@gracehillchurch.net.

Or, fill out the form to the right and place in the offering basket during “Giving back to God.”

Your Name _____

Email Address _____

Phone Number _____

Mailing Address _____