

Unhindered

Week 2 - Brian Kangas
 “Unhindered Resurrection”

Icebreaker: What are you reading right now (book/comics/etc.)?

Things to Consider:

- We'll begin with this quote by G.K. Chesterton. In an interview with the New York Times he was asked, “What’s wrong with the world today?”
 - What would be your answer to that question?
 - Chesterton’s answer was simple and to the point: “Dear Sir, I am.”
 - Do you agree or disagree Chesterton’s answer? Why?
- We must take a moment to understand that there is an ideal: a perfect and glorious mode of existence. Our frustrations in life; the disappointments; the grief; the missed opportunities all point to this concept of a real, tangible ideal that we simply are not living up to or, at the least, experiencing.
 - This is the summation of the concept: *Utopia exists and only becomes tainted when I arrive.*

Texts for Discussion:

- Read **Romans 7:1-14**
 - What do you think about Paul’s assertion that knowledge of the law gives sin its power in our lives?
- Read **Romans 6:20-23**
 - What is sin’s power?
- Read **Romans 7:14-25**
 - Do you have any personal experience with what Paul is referencing in these verses?

Things to Consider:

- We know sin is death, and that while a slave to it, no life is possible in ourselves. We can come to the understanding that we don’t have the power to overcome sin on our own. We need help from an outside source to save us. The Sunday school answer of “Jesus” is right, as usual, but the question begs to be asked: **How** do we overcome sin with Jesus?
 - What do you think?

Texts for Discussion:

- Read **Colossians 2:11-15**
 - We celebrate baptism as a symbol of our death and rebirth in Christ.
 - Have you been baptised? Why or why not?
 - If not, what has been keeping you from it?
- Read **Colossians 3:1-11**
 - While Paul is saying to stop sinning in this passage, we know we could not do so on our own. It is because of our commitment to Christ (baptism exemplifies this publicly) and our new life in Him that we now have the power to actually stop sinning.
 - Do you agree with Paul or disagree? Why?

Going Deeper:

- The best life we can imagine is a life unhindered from sin and death. This can only be found in Christ! Rather than looking around us for the “other” that is stopping us from achieving the ideal, we need to take an honest look at ourselves. There is no life outside of Christ. Those who grasp this are on the way to an unhindered life!

Prayer: Pray for those who took the plunge in baptism on Sunday. That they would continue to find a community of support and love. Pray that you would be part of that community, full of grace and mercy for each other. Pray in gratitude for all that Christ has done for you!