



Week 5- "Re-Living The Gospel"

At the beginning of a New Year we tend to look at the areas of our lives that we want to change and grow in. We seem to know that there are areas in our life that need to change. In this week's message we explore what Christianity teaches, not about how we can change ourselves, but how we can lean into how God changes us.

1. What stood out to you from the message?
2. Do you get frustrated with yourself when you continue to struggle with the same thing over and over again? How do you think God feels about it?
3. What would you say is the thing you do the most to try and change yourself? Does it work, and if not why do you think that is?

Justification means to be made just as you had never sinned, not because of anything you have done, but because of what Jesus has done for you. Jesus didn't just forgive us, He put His righteousness in us and through faith in Him we have been acquitted of all our sins.

4. If justification is a gift only given by Jesus, why do you sometimes think that you can overcome sin patterns, character defects, and become more like Jesus in your own effort?

Read Galatians 1:6, and Galatians 3:1-3

Our sanctification (our growing, changing, overcoming sin patterns, character defects, our becoming more like Jesus) comes not by self effort to try and be

better...but by returning all the time to the reality of what God has done in our justification (*the acquittal of our sins*).

5. How would your life change if you constantly returned to the gospel of grace?

6. How would you begin to see yourself when you struggle if you trusted that Jesus' righteousness is in you and defines you?

Galatians 2:21 says "*I do not set aside the grace of God, for if righteousness could be gained through the law, Christ died for nothing!*"

8. If you want to grow in Christ and change you need to re-live the gospel everyday.
-Dane Ortlund (paraphrased) What do you think this practically looks like?

9. How can you lean into His Spirit for help in reminding you to return to the gospel of grace?

If we want to grow as Christians we must re-live the gospel everyday. When we re-live the gospel we remember who we are, what is true about us, what God thinks about us, and what He has done for us. When we meditate on the gospel it seeps into our hearts and changes our lives in practical ways, not because of anything we can or should achieve, but because we are living out who we are in Christ.