

chosen & choosing

How God's life becomes ours

Week 7: Wrapping Up (The Gift)

What you think of God is the most important thing about you.
~ A.W. Tozer, *The Idea of the Holy*

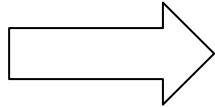
INTRODUCTION – A Community of Bereans

Acts 17:11
John 3:16; 17:26; Romans 5:8; 1 John 4:7-12

DINE IN – Q & Eh?

“TULIP”...

- Total Depravity
- Unconditional Election
- Limited Atonement
- Irresistible Grace
- Perseverance of the Saints



“GRACE”...

- God's Broken Image
- Remade through Faith
- Atonement for All
- Chosen and Choosing
- Empowered to Grow

TAKE OUT – I'll Have That to Go Please

What now? Like we have done with other topics (Holy Spirit Baptism and Gifts, Nature of Hell, Peace Theology vs. Just War, Believer vs. Infant Baptism, Same-Sex Marriage), we will continue to press on to being a maturing, diversity-in-unity community.

DIVERSITY IN UNITY – FOUR LEVELS OF RELATIONAL MATURITY

1. We embrace people who are like us, and reject people who are different. (The way of Prejudice)
2. We embrace people who are like us, and tolerate people who are different. (The way of Political Correctness)
3. We embrace people who are like us, and embrace people who are different, regardless of their differences. (The way of Religion)
4. We embrace people who are like us, and embrace people who are different, because of their differences. (The way of Jesus)

CONCLUSION – Keeping the Gospel Central

The Gospel is the Good News that, through Jesus, God has done for you what every religion tries but fails to do.

Acts 14:15; Hebrews 8:13

FOR FURTHER RESEARCH...

- *Across the Spectrum: Understanding Issues in Evangelical Theology*, by Gregory A. Boyd and Paul R. Eddy
- *Why I am Not a Calvinist*, by Jerry L. Walls and Joseph R. Dongell
- *Why I am Not an Arminian*, by Robert A. Peterson and Michael D. Williams
- *Against Calvinism*, by Roger E. Olson
- *For Calvinism*, by Michael Horton
- *Whosoever Will: A Biblical-Theological Critique of Five-Point Calvinism*, Edited by David L. Allen and Steve W. Lemke
- *Elect in the Son*, by Robert Shank
- *Life in the Son*, by Robert Shank
- *A Contemporary Anabaptist Theology*, by Thomas N. Finger
- Look for “How Does a Sovereign God Love?” at desiringgod.org
- Society of Evangelical Arminians at evangelicalarminians.org

HOME CHURCH QUESTIONS

Warming Up...

1. How did you do with last week's homework? What were your “Take Outs” from reading through **1 John** multiple times this past week?
2. What are the problems with filtering Scripture through God's Power (aka Sovereignty) as his primary characteristic rather than his Love? (Think about how this applies to things like relationship, evil, and salvation.)
3. How, if at all, have your thoughts/beliefs shifted or deepened during this series?

Look to the Book...

4. Let's take our time with one verse of the Bible. Read **Galatians 2:20**, slowly, repeatedly, in multiple translations. A) What are your initial thoughts? B) Paul was already crucified with Christ. When and how did this happen? Has this happened to you? C) What does it mean to no longer live but for Christ to live through us? How do you experience this reality in your life? D) What is Paul most sure about regarding the Son of God? Do you have the same sense? E) Do you have the same level of personal connection, relationship, and assurance as Paul?

So What?...

5. At what level of relational maturity would you rate yourself? How should we as a church practice unity-in-diversity when people have different views on things like charismatic gifts, peace theology, believer baptism, same-sex marriage, God's sovereignty and our free will, etc.?
6. Who are you inviting to the *End of the World* next Sunday?

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Notes are available online at themeetinghouse.ca/teaching