

## Getting Started

1. Do you enjoy having a good discussion with someone else or do you retreat from conflict and disagreements?
2. Are you putting things on facebook or saying things to people that are hurtful or filled with hatred rather than compassion and grace?
3. Why do people get so attached to political candidates, sports teams or other human institutions?
4. What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's sermon did you find to be most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain.

## Digging Deeper

### 5. Heidelberg Catechism Q&A 86:

#### Q. Who should come to the Lord's table?

A. Those who are displeased with themselves because of their sins, but who nevertheless trust that their sins are pardoned and that their remaining weakness is covered by the suffering and death of Christ, and who also desire more and more to strengthen their faith and to lead a better life.

Hypocrites and those who are unrepentant, however, eat and drink judgment on themselves.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> 1 Cor. 10:19-22; 11:26-32

How does our scripture this morning tie in with taking the Lord's Supper?

6. Peter says we are to abstain from the passions of the flesh. Paul gives us a broader understanding of this in Galatians 5:19-21. What are the passions of the flesh?
7. Some of the charges brought against Christians in Peter's time were disloyalty to the emperor (John 19:12), propagation of unlawful customs (Acts 16:20, 21), and general troublemaking (Acts 17:6, 7). Would non-Christians be able to bring charges against you? Or do you live according to the words of 1 Peter?
8. Read Colossians 3:23, 24. Why is submission to others in itself service to Christ?

## Application

9. It is so easy to get negative during the election cycle and disparage the candidates or our current elected officials. As Christians we need to honor everyone. We do this because we belong to God and someday the folks around us who are not Christians may come to know God and glorify him through our actions.

## **Bible Reading Questions**

October 3 – Matthew 2 – What does the presence of the wise men teach us about God's future kingdom? Hint: who will be included?

October 4 – Matthew 3; Mark 1; Luke 3 – We are reading of the prophecies that have been fulfilled. Why is that important? Why are they being mentioned?

October 5 – Matthew 4; Luke 4-5 – How do you respond to temptation?

October 6 – John 2-4 – Why is John 3:16 so popular? What does it mean?

October 7 – Matthew 8; Mark 2 – After Jesus heals these people he tells them not to tell others about him. Why?

October 8 – John 5 – Jesus' power comes from the Father. He can't do anything without the Father's leading. Why is this important?

October 9 – Matthew 12; Mark 3; Luke 6 – Jesus says a kingdom divided falls. Is this why the Christian Church is having such a difficult time?

## **Ross Community Reformed Church**

Pastor Shawn Gerbers · October 2, 2016

### **Common Problems**

#### **“Freedom to Live”**

Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul. Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation.

1 Peter 2:11, 12

- **Live into the \_\_\_\_\_ we have from God, and live \_\_\_\_\_.**
  
- **Subject ourselves to human \_\_\_\_\_.**

Topics: Government, honor, sojourners