

Getting Started

1. What are your favorite games to play?
2. When has your foundation on God been strongest? Weakest?
3. What is the easiest way for you to praise God? What is the most difficult?
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. Since we have been delivered from our misery by grace through Christ without any merit of our own, why then should we do good works?

A. Because Christ, having redeemed us by his blood, is also restoring us by his Spirit into his image, so that with our whole lives we may show that we are thankful to God for his benefits,¹ so that he may be praised through us,² so that we may be assured of our faith by its fruits,³ and so that by our godly living our neighbors may be won over to Christ.⁴

¹ Rom. 6:13; 12:1-2; 1 Pet. 2:5-10 ² Matt. 5:16; 1 Cor. 6:19-20 ³ Matt. 7:17-18; Gal. 5:22-24; 2 Pet. 1:10-11 ⁴ Matt. 5:14-16; Rom. 14:17-19; 1 Pet. 2:12; 3:1-2

Why is it important that we praise God for who he is?

6. Peter may be drawing on his sermon from Acts 4. Read Acts 4:11-12 and compare it to 1 Peter 2:4-10.
7. Read Matthew 16:13-20. What does Jesus mean when he tells Peter "On this rock I will build my church"?
8. Peter quotes Isaiah 28:16, Psalm 118:22 and Isaiah 8:14. Why does he quote scripture? What point is he making with these verses?

Application

9. We have been given the strongest most unbreakable foundation possible in Jesus Christ. He invites us to be a part of him. Our response is holy living (as we talked about last week), but it is also praise and adoration. In what ways do you worship God throughout the week?

Bible Reading Questions

September 26 – Nehemiah 1-5 – Why does Nehemiah go back to Jerusalem? What is his task?

September 27 – Nehemiah 6-7 – What kept Nehemiah going in the face of conspiracy and oppression?

September 28 – Nehemiah 8-10 – Were the roles of Ezra and Nehemiah different? Was it necessary for them both to be in Jerusalem as the wall was being rebuilt?

September 29 – Nehemiah 11-13; Psalm 126 – Nehemiah goes to great lengths to ensure the Sabbath is kept by the people. What barriers do you set to help you keep the Sabbath?

September 30 – Malachi – What makes an offering/tithe pleasing to God?

October 1 – Luke 1; John 1 – Why was the gospel of Luke written? Take note of how the gospel of John differs from the other 3 Gospels as we begin to read all four.

October 2 – Matthew 1; Luke 2 – How are these accounts similar? How are they different? Why does Jesus' genealogy matter?

Ross Community Reformed Church

Pastor Shawn Gerbers · September 25, 2016

Common Problems

“Unbreakable”

As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

1 Peter 2:4, 5

- **Jesus is the living _____ of his Church and those who _____ are _____ in the living temple as well.**

- **Our mandate as priestly people is to _____ Christ's _____.**

Topics: Worship, Church, belonging