

Getting Started

1. What are our practices of hospitality as a congregation?
2. In what ways does Ross Church extend hospitality to neighbors who might never attend a worship service or activity?
3. In what ways are resources – homes, cars, skills, tools, etc. – shared among members of Ross Church? How can you encourage and facilitate more sharing of resources?
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 91

Q. What are good works?

A. Only those which are done out of true faith,¹ conform to God's law,² and are done for God's glory;³ and not those based on our own opinion or human tradition.⁴

¹ John 15:5; Heb. 11:6 ² Lev. 18:4; 1 Sam. 15:22; Eph. 2:10 ³ 1 Cor. 10:31 ⁴ Deut. 12:32; Isa. 29:13; Ezek. 20:18-19; Matt. 15:7-9

If we do things out of our own self interest or to gain something are these good works pleasing to God?

6. Read Luke 14:12-24. Do we invite just anyone to our banquets/potlucks, or do we only invite those we know?
7. In 1 Timothy 5:10 hospitality is used as a test of character? Can we judge a person's character based on their use of hospitality?
8. Upon his return, Jesus will judge the righteous and the unrighteous (Matt. 13:40-43; 25:41-46; John 5:22-30; Acts 10:42; 2 Cor. 5:10; Heb. 10:25-31; Rev. 20:11-15). Are you comforted by this or does it distress you? Explain.

Application

9. Hospitality is often used on those we already know and have a relationship with. As Christians we are called to be hospitable to all, whether we know them or not. This is incredibly challenging to put into practice. Choose at least one person this week to be hospitable to without expectation of receiving anything in return.

Bible Reading Questions

May 30 – Psalms 119 – Psalm 119 is a poem where each line of a stanza begins with the letter of the Hebrew alphabet that titles that section. So the first section is the “Aleph” section and each line begins with a word that begins with the letter aleph. This poem is about God’s commands and word. What is the psalmist proclaiming?

May 31 – 1 Kings 3-4 – If God told you he would give you anything what would you ask for?

June 1 – 2 Chronicles 1; Psalm 72 – Psalm 72 is a prayer that Solomon offers. Do your prayers ask that the poor and needy have their needs met by God? How often are your prayers for others?

June 2 – Song of Solomon – Song of Solomon is a poem between newlyweds. Why is it in the Bible, what does it teach us about God?

June 3 – Proverbs 1-3 – Proverbs is a collection of wisdom sayings. Why does Solomon value wisdom so much?

June 4 – Proverbs 4-6 – In these chapters there are encouragements to learn from discipline and letting wisdom guide us. How do you respond to discipline or being critiqued?

June 5 – Proverbs 7-9 – If wisdom is so easy to obtain why do some struggle to gain wisdom?

Ross Community Reformed Church

Pastor Shawn Gerbers · May 29th, 2016

Slow Church

“Welcome”

And the King will answer them, “Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.”

Matthew 25:40

- **Our _____ is a response to God’s _____.**
- **Christian hospitality _____ people _____ as they are, with no advantage _____ or expectations of _____.**
- **Our _____ should extend beyond those who are _____ us and beyond those who can _____; to the people God _____ our way.**

Topics: Hospitality, generosity, least of these