

Sermon Study Guide – June 24th, 2018:

Today's Focus – "Clay Church, Relevant Riches"

1) Thoughts to get you started...

- ◆ How do churches strive to be relevant? What is it that people look for in churches? What do you?
- ◆ As we think of our series, “jars of clay”, how might a “clay church” offer even more relevance?

2) Today's Message: 2 Corinthians 5:14-21

¹⁴ For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. ¹⁵ And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again. ¹⁶ So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. ¹⁷ Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!

¹⁸ All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: ¹⁹ that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. ²⁰ We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. ²¹ God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

3) What does God want you to know today?

Throughout the sermon, consider...

How does today's sermon show you your sin? (i.e. What's the law?)

How does today's sermon show your Savior? (i.e. What's the gospel?)

Law:

Gospel:



Feel free to answer the following questions to help you follow the sermon...

1. What does the verb “reconcile” mean?
2. What is *implied* in the fact that we are “reconciled” to God?
3. What is *declared* in the fact that we are “reconciled” to God?
4. Who has God reconciled? Why is this so important for us to hear?
5. Why is God’s universal reconciliation the most relevant treasure the church can offer?
6. What’s true about everyone we run across? What’s this mean for how we go about things as a church? As Christians?

4) Taking it Home:

Consider the following as you go about your week:

- ◆ Without the teaching of universal reconciliation, how would it limit the comfort we proclaim as a church? The work we do to bring the gospel to others?
- ◆ Compare and contrast our sermon text with Thursday’s reading from Romans 5. What similarities do you see between the two? What differences do you see? Are they talking about the same thing with reconciliation and justification, or something different?

Read these sections of the Bible to reinforce this week’s truths:

Monday: review Luke 23:32-43, Acts 9:1-19

Tuesday: 1 John 4:7-21

Wednesday: John 1:19-34

Thursday: Romans 5

Friday: 1 Corinthians 13

Saturday: review 2 Cor. 5:14-21