

“Let’s Say Grace:

God is Great... God is Good!”

1 Timothy 6:17-19 / 11.11.12

Community Group Growth Questions

1. Share with the group any insight, truth, or observation from Sunday’s message that helped you, troubled you, or ministered to you.
2. When you think about what makes you happy, how much does entertainment, possessions and wealth play in your happiness? Consider God’s goodness. How does God’s goodness toward you change your perspective toward those things?
3. Do you view your possessions as a product of your hard work or as the provision of God? If God provides everything for you, how can knowing this free you to be generous?
4. Define “rich”. In what ways can having more than what we need cause us to be arrogant toward God and others?
5. Where does 1 Timothy 6:17-19 instruct us to “set our hope”? How will this help us in times of abundance? How will this help us in times of lack?
6. Why is God generous to us?

Living on Mission

1. Spend some time in prayer asking God to judge the motives and attitudes of your heart concerning generosity. Why do you give when you give? What reasons do you give yourself for not giving?
2. Consider the definition of generosity. Do you think it only concerns your physical goods (money, possessions, etc)? Are you generous with your time? Your gifts? Your talents?
3. Hebrews 6:10 says that God sees our generosity as a pleasing sacrifice to Him. Ask God what act of generosity he would be pleased to receive from you this week.
4. Think about your career, possessions, etc. How much have you simply “worked hard for”? Have you given thanks to God for His provision and blessing? Who gets credit for your wealth – you or God?
5. Who will you be generous toward this week in the body of Christ? As a witness to God’s goodness in the world?

This Week’s Reading:

Monday: Proverbs 14:20-21, 30-31

Tuesday: 2 Corinthians 9:6-12

Wednesday: Romans 12:6-9

Thursday: Psalm 31:19 and 34:1-8

Friday: Psalm 86:1-13

Saturday: Psalm 95:1-7

Ripple Report:

What are we here for? After everything’s back in the trailers and we get in our cars and leave, only one thing matters: the Gospel. That’s our mission here at C@M: to proclaim the Gospel and reach those far from God. We’re longing to be a church where the Word is preached, people repent and lives are changed.

The Bible says in Luke 15:10, “There is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents.” This past week, we saw people responding to the Word in a way that can only be explained by the Holy Spirit. We saw men confessing sin, asking for prayer, and someone prayed to become a Christian in the first service. This is what we’re doing this for! Let’s pray this morning for a movement of the Spirit and for broken, repentant hearts that are changed by the Gospel.



How is God working? Let us know by tagging your tweets with #ripplereport or sending them to ripple@martinsburgchurch.org!

Welcome to the Church at Martinsburg!

Whether this is your first time or your next time, whether you are a member or a first-time guest – we want to connect with you! Use the white card with this Loop to relay information to your church staff. Please complete the front so we can update our records and use the back to request information or share your prayer requests. As your pastors, we are honored to pray for and serve you.

Pastor On Call: If you have an emergency and need to get a hold of a pastor from Friday morning through Monday morning please call 304.616.9007 to reach The Church at Martinsburg’s Pastor on call.

Media Team: Looking for a place to serve? What about media? Contact Tim Wilkerson for more information at tim@martinsburgchurch.org

Ripple Reports: How is God at work in your community group, our church, and your life in general? Let us know with this hashtag: #ripplereport

OP:THX - Pledged = 161 turkeys, Need at least 97 more! - Join us on November 17th from 7:45 to 8:15am at the Regal Cinema’s parking lot.

Missionary Toolbox:

The Goodness of God: “Within the cluster of God’s moral perfections there is one in particular to which the term ‘goodness’ points – the quality which God specially singled out from the whole when proclaiming ‘all his goodness’ to Moses, He spoke of Himself as ‘abundant in goodness and truth’ (Exodus 34:6). This is the quality of generosity. Generosity means a disposition to give to others in a way which has no mercenary motive and is not limited by what the recipients deserve, but consistently goes beyond it. Generosity expresses the simple wish that others should have what they need to make them happy. Generosity is, so to speak, the focal point of God’s moral perfection; it is the quality which determines how all God’s other excellences are to be displayed.” J I Packer

“God’s goodness is His admirable being and doing, but especially His attractive moral excellence, which when expressed actively is defined as His love. God is good, worthy of admiration, and when He morally demonstrates His goodness; that is He loves. ‘Goodness is the generic attribute of which the love of benevolence, grace, pity, mercy, forgiveness, are but specific actings, distinguished by the attitude of their objects, rather than by the intrinsic principle.’ (Robert Dabney) Stephen Charnock comments: ‘Goodness is the brightness and loveliness of our majestic Creator.’ In an active sense it is God’s ‘inclination to deal well and bountifully with His creatures.’ Hence God is morally attractive in both His being and doing. This appeal is experienced by the child of God when his heart, having been renewed, is capable of delighting in righteousness.” (John Bunyan’s works, chapter 4, volume 1)

Suggested Resources:

Life Together – The Classic Exploration of Christian Community by Dietrich Bonhoeffer
Choosing Gratitude – Your Journey to Joy by Nancy Leigh DeMoss
Finding Real Joy – A Thankful Heart in a World of Hurt by Joni Eareckson Tada
The Pleasures of God by John Piper