

1. Get Acquainted: Icebreaker

Tim Rice gave the example of the plumbing being backed up in his house as an overwhelming problem that he could not solve.

- When was the last time you were overwhelmed with a problem and had to look to someone else to solve it?
- How do you feel about them? How do you speak of them?

Tim's example: In the late 80's my Dad was in financial trouble so he sold me 150K worth of apartments for 450K. It was 1989, the year I made the most money in my construction career and poured 40K into the black hole that was my apartment investments. Well, now I was going under too and I was racked with fear. My friend, Mike, heard my story and solved my problem. He bought those apartments. I am forever and ever grateful to him. I can never, ever repay him. I am going to chase him down this week and tell him what he means to me.

2. Worship: IS He Worthy?

<https://open.spotify.com/track/4E43YlwUlPjYDlxcMjt0S7?si=2UWal6XwQU-mcEWRCZrJZg>

Listen to this song and praise Jesus for his worth and wonder.

Do you feel the world is broken? (We do)
 Do you feel the shadows deepen? (We do)
 But do you know that all the dark won't stop the
 light from getting through? (We do)
 Do you wish that you could see it all made
 new? (We do)
 Is all creation groaning? (It is)
 Is a new creation coming? (It is)
 Is the glory of the Lord to be the light within our
 midst? (It is)
 Is it good that we remind ourselves of this? (It is)

Is anyone worthy?
 Is anyone whole?
 Is anyone able to break the seal and open the
 scroll?
 The Lion of Judah who conquered the grave
 He is David's root and the Lamb who died to
 ransom the slave
 Is He worthy? Is He worthy?
 Of all blessing and honor and glory

Is He worthy of this? He is
 Does the Father truly love us? (He does)
 Does the Spirit move among us? (He does)
 And does Jesus, our Messiah hold forever those

He loves? (He does)
 Does our God intend to dwell again with us? (He
 does)

Is anyone worthy?
 Is anyone whole?
 Is anyone able to break the seal and open the
 scroll?
 The Lion of Judah who conquered the grave
 He is David's root and the Lamb who died to
 ransom the slave
 From every people and tribe
 Every nation and tongue
 He has made us a kingdom and priests to God
 To reign with the Son
 Is He worthy? Is He worthy?
 Of all blessing and honor and glory
 Is He worthy? Is He worthy?
 Is He worthy of this?
 He is!
 Is He worthy? Is He worthy?
 He is!
 He is!

3. Kingdom Centered Prayer: Praying Trinity's Values

As we start this January series on Trinity's Values, let's spend some time in prayer praising and thanking God for each value but also ask God to prepare us for a great month of discovery and transformation.

G R O W Out!

G – Gospel

R – Relationship

O – Openness

W – Work / Rigger

Out - Outreach

4. Sermon Reflection:

Romans 1:1-4 (ESV)

¹ Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, ² which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, ³ concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh ⁴ and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, ...

¹⁴ I am under obligation both to Greeks and to barbarians, both to the wise and to the foolish. ¹⁵ So I am eager to preach the gospel to you also who are in Rome. ¹⁶ For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. ¹⁷ For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith."

What is the Gospel? Have someone take a shot at answering. Encourage them where they are correct.

- What is the problem the Gospel solves?
 - What is the Gospel cry in the face of this overwhelming problem?
 - Answer: "I need HELP!"
 - What is the NON-Gospel response to this problem?
 - Answer: "I am able to do something to solve this?"
- The Gospel as Rescue
 - How do you know the Gospel as rescue?
 - Answer: Jesus rescues me from me, my flesh, the world and the Devil.
- The Gospel as Announcement
 - What is your favorite part of the Gospel that you love to think about?
 - What aspect of the Gospel do you brag about the most?
- The Gospel is freedom
 - What freedoms did you experience this week from the Gospel?

The Slavery of Life Apart from Jesus

- How does the love and pursuit of created things become slavery?
- How does the success of those pursuits cause you to be proud?
 - What are you like to be around when you are proud?
- How has failure in pursuing created things made you fearful?
 - What are you like when you are racked with fear?

The Church of the Redeemed

- Tim's Hospital example to explain the church.
 - Patients cared for by former patients.
- So the church is filled people who have been redeemed from lives of pride and fear now helping people gripped by pride and fear.
- How have you experienced that kind of care and love?

We Trust God's Power – read and enjoy, have each person share their favorite part or line that encouraged them the most.

- Ability – Christ's work
 - On the Cross – Solved the Problem of God's Wrath for our Sin
 - In His Life of perfect obedience – Solved the problem of God's demand for righteous, perfect obedience
- Effectiveness against the Threat
 - Jesus is the Son of God so he is infinite to match God's infinite demands
 - Jesus is Son of Man to match the requirement of a man sinned and a man must be a substitute, no lamb, no goat, no pigeon would suffice.
- Generous
 - Your greatest debt – Jesus paid
 - Your greatest loneliness – Jesus is with you, in you, forever
 - Your greatest desire LOVE – Jesus supplies the LOVE of the ONE and ONLY God almighty.
 - Your greatest achievement – The Glory of Jesus' work and record given to you

5. Mission: Outward Obligating Grace – I am obligated. I am eager.

Good deeds merit grateful responses. Example: If someone lets you go in front as you are trying to exit a parking lot in your car, you wave to acknowledge their kindness. When someone opens a door for you, you say "thank you". When God sends his son to save you from your sin and eternal damnation but also then makes you His son or daughter, what could possibly be the appropriate response of gratitude for the greatest gift you will ever receive that will be forever new for all time.

- Who are you obligated and eager to pray that they will hear the story of God's saving work in Jesus?
- Who are you obligated and eager to tell the story, your story, of God's saving work for you in Jesus?