

LOGF NOTES 08.04.19

Good News

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Memory Verse:

Romans 1:17 For in the gospel a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: "The righteous will live by faith."

John 3:14-15 Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.

1. We are doomed in our sin...because of our sin, not because of God.
2. God has come to rescue us from our sin, from death to life.
3. We need to trust in him, look to him, depend on him, have faith in him.

John 3:16-18 For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God's one and only Son.

1. God loves us.
2. Jesus came to save us.
3. We have a choice to make.
4. Believing implies relationship.
5. God's motive is love, not hate; salvation not condemnation; life not death.
6. We stand condemned in our sin without remedy apart from faith in Jesus.

A relationship with Jesus is the good news...not a religion to follow.

Jesus consistently pointed people to Himself...to come to Him, to rely on Him, to know Him. John 5:39-40 You study the Scriptures diligently because you think that in them you have eternal life. These are the very Scriptures that testify about me, yet you refuse to come to me to have life.

We must remember that the Word of God is a person...Jesus.

Genesis 1:1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

John 1:1, 14 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning....The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Colossians 1:15-17 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by him all things were created; things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

The Word is all about Jesus! It's purpose is to lead us into a relationship with Jesus!

Galatians 3:24 So the law was put in charge to lead us to Christ that we might be justified by faith.

The gospel is the power of God for salvation

Romans 1:16-17 I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile. For in the gospel a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: "The righteous will live by faith."

Jesus is Living Water — John 4:10, 13-14

Jesus is Eternal Life — John 5:24

Jesus is the Bread of Life — John 6:35, 47-48, 57

Jesus Satisfies Our Soul — John 7:37-38

Jesus is Abundant Life — John 10:9-11

Jesus is the Way, Truth, Life...not religion, but a relationship. — John 14:6

Jesus is Our Source, Not Ourselves — John 15:5

Recognize no one according to the flesh

2 Corinthians 5:16-17 (NASB) Therefore from now on we recognize no one according to the flesh; even though we have known Christ according to the flesh, yet now we know Him in this way no longer. Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.

What is to be our approach?

John 12:47 As for the person who hears my words but does not keep them, I do not judge him. For I did not come to judge the world, but to save it.

I suggest use the approach of Jesus:

- He invited people to Himself.
- He always had good news.
- He never gives up or judges people.
- He was full of truth and grace.

Life Group Discussion

1. Discuss the memory verse for the week:
2. Discuss the importance of focusing our attention on our relationship with Jesus in the midst of our spiritual practices of worship, Bible reading/studying, serving, giving, communion, prayer, etc. That we don't merely do these things to do them or because we ought...but that we use them as avenues to meet with God and fellowship with Him.
3. Have you ever had a critical thought or word about someone? What is really going on inside of us when we are thinking that way? Try to look at what is happening in our hearts in those moments.
4. We can either begin partnering with the Holy Spirit or cooperating with the devil's agenda. What determines who we are working with? Is it possible that sometimes we may not recognize the spiritual source of our behavior?
5. How does God view a person who is trusting in Jesus as Savior? How do you view most people around you who are trusting in Jesus as Savior? Do we need to adjust our view a little bit?
6. How can we be better encouragers of one another?