



Week 8 | November 4 Sermon

Community:

This week, get to know each other in a fun way. We do a lot of questions and a lot of talking in GROUP. Sometimes just being together is just as good a way to get to know one another. If your group is drawn to the question “games,” you may certainly borrow one of my Thumb Balls. I will leave my basket of them at The Welcome Center for easy pickup throughout the week. If simply playing together sounds good, grab out one of your favorite games that you can play within the amount of time you normally allot for Community. Some suggestions include:

- UNO
- Apples to Apples
- Sequence in teams
- Headz Up (You can get an app version of this super cheap & then you always have it!)
- Telestrations (You really don’t need the actual game, just paper and pens. Don’t know how to play? Ask me and I’ll send instructions. It’s hilarious!)

Enjoy some play time together! I am a firm believer that the group that plays together stays together!

Sermon Title: Preaching on the Other Side of the Tracks, Part I | Text: Acts 6:1-15

Auditorium Discussion Questions::

Revisit two stories from the Gospels:

Parable of the Good Samaritan [Luke 10:25-37] & Woman at the Well [John 4:1-26]

How did Jesus challenge the concept of mono-cultural ministry in these two accounts?

Personal question (not for discussion) Where would you find yourself in either of these two stories?

In Stephen’s story of Acts 6:8-15 and 7:44-49, what seemed to be the flashpoint that ignited the wrath of his accusers? And how does this relate to Jesus’ visit with the woman at the well?

Think of ways that we today try to confine God’s immense glory in man-made institution. What are the dangers of this ‘temple building’ mentality?

Sanctuary Discussion Questions::

Please read and reflect upon Acts 1:8 and 6:1-15. What is the Holy Spirit drawing your attention to as you consider the invitation to “live as sent ones?”

The Sanhedrin angrily opposed Stephen’s teaching for they understood him to be against:

The nation

The Temple

The law

As you read 6:8-15, what do you understand Stephen’s message to be? Recall that “message” includes both deeds and words. Do you resist this message today? Why or why not?

Along the same lines, have you ever found yourself opposing the “new works of the Kingdom of God?” If so, why? If not, how are you responding to these “new works” today?

Kevin organizes his teaching around the words: Know. Be. Do. This week the teaching is organized:

Know: John 14:6 “Jesus answered, ‘I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.’”

Be: An ambassador for Jesus

Do: From 6:8, request to be filled with Jesus’ “grace and power” so that you will bring a witness to/for Jesus

If you were to develop a Know. Be. Do from Acts 6:1-15, what might it look like?

Will you pray for each other? Invite the Lord to give you His grace and power (or, the Holy Spirit) so that you will act as “sent ones” this week.

*Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near. **Hebrews 10:24-25***

GROUPS