

Sermon Study Questions

Sunday, September 22, 2024

1. Read 2 Corinthians 2:1-11
2. A clear emphasis in the first seven verses is that sin causes pain (the word translated as sorrow or pain occurs seven times in the those first seven verses), as this man who sinned was hurting, as was Paul, and the entire church. I'd like for you to think about that, and then discuss (if you're in a community group) specific instances in which you have seen this play out in real life.
3. What is church discipline, when is church discipline administered, and why is church discipline administered?
4. Why is church discipline so important? What is the danger, or the thing the elders need to be careful of, in administering church discipline? (Think about the quotes from John Calvin).
5. The ultimate goal of church discipline is restoration. What is restoration? What does restoration look like? What is your role in helping to bring about the restoration of a repentant brother or sister?
6. Paul says to the church that you should "turn" to forgive and comfort this man. How do you know when to "turn" from enforcing the discipline of the church, to embracing and comforting someone who has fallen?
7. Paul tells us that he wrote these things to the Corinthians to "test you" to see if you are obedient in all things. What is he referring to there? Why does he "test" them in this?

8. Paul says in reference to this ordeal that we are not ignorant of Satan's designs. What are Satan's designs in such a scenario as this one?

9. What practical application can you make from this text/sermon?

10. Pray!

Reading of Law: Ephesian 4:32

Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you

Prayer of Confession:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed by your name. You are great and greatly to be praised. We confess our sin to you, that we are not nearly as kind or tenderhearted towards one another as we should be, but we are at times mean and hard-hearted, failing to show compassion and sympathy when others are hurting. We also struggle to forgive others when we are wronged, holding grudges and secretly harboring ill-will against those who have sinned against us even though you have forgiven us of an innumerable number of sins which we have committed against you. Father please forgive us. And please cause the greatness of the forgiveness we have experienced in Christ to soften us and make us a kind, tenderhearted, and forgiving people. We ask this in Jesus' name, amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness: John 3:17

For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through Him.

WLC: 146

Q. 146. Which is the tenth commandment?

A. The tenth commandment is, You shall not covet your neighbor's house, you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, nor his man-servant, nor his maid-servant, nor his ox, nor his donkey, nor any thing that is your neighbor's.

[Ex. 20:17.](#)

OT Reading: Deuteronomy 30:1-3

And when all these things come upon you, the blessing and the curse, which I have set before you, and you call them to mind among all the nations where the LORD your God has driven you, ² and return to the LORD your God, you and your children, and obey his voice in all that I command you today, with all your heart and with all your soul, ³ then the LORD your God will restore your fortunes and have mercy on you, and he will gather you again from all the peoples where the LORD your God has scattered you.