

COMMUNITY GROUP STUDY GUIDE

5 Solas*Saved by Grace Alone***REVIEW**

In Romans 12:2 the Apostle Paul commands us “to not be conformed to this world.” Why? Because we are tempted to do this very thing, to be pressed into the mold of our culture’s thinking. Our hearts tempt us. The world around tempts us. But, we are to be motivated by a greater “temptation” – that of the world to come.

APPLY // LUKE 6:32-24 & JOHN 13:34-35

1. Read Luke 6:32-34 and John 13:34-35. Briefly contrast the differences between worldly/natural love in Luke 6:32-34 and the godly/supernatural love in John 13:34-35.
2. Think about your closest relationships. In what ways do they align with the worldly/natural or godly/supernatural view of love?
3. John 13:35 says “By this all people will know that you are my disciples...” Do people around you notice your relationships are different? Give some examples. Have these conversations been an opportunity to talk about Jesus?
4. What are some personal or corporate examples of ways people have loved you or others in the church as Christ loves?
5. Give one or two tangible ways you can cultivate godly rather than worldly relationships. Where do you think Restoration Church does well in this regard? Areas to improve?
6. What happens when our relationships fail us? How do we love others like Jesus loved us even amid difficult situations, disagreements, and being let down by others?

STUDY // ROMANS 1:16-17

Study the passage of Scripture aiming to faithfully interpret and apply what you observe. Remember we study God’s word not just to increase our knowledge, but to increase our trust in and treasuring of Jesus Christ.

NOTE: We’ll be discussing the historic 5 Solas over the five weeks. While distinct, much of the truths overlap one another. Therefore, our discussions, especially the first three weeks, will highlight similar truths. That’s okay. We should never get over the gospel of being saved by grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone according to Scripture alone for God’s glory alone.

1. Read Romans 1:1-17. (Note: We’ll primarily focus on verse 17 in this week’s sermon).
2. Note the audience of this letter. Discuss Paul’s reason for writing.
3. In verse 16, what does it mean to be “ashamed of the gospel”? Why would Paul explicitly tell the Roman saints he is “not ashamed of the gospel”? How does Paul’s attitude encourage or challenge us?
4. What else do we learn about the gospel from verse 16? What implications does this have for our lives today?

5. Looking at verse 17, what is the “righteousness of God”? Cross reference: Philippians 3:7-9.
 6. How does the gospel reveal the “righteousness of God”? What does this have to do with the historic phrase “saved by grace alone”?
 7. What does the phrase “from faith for faith” mean? Note: Various translations of this phrase include: “from faith to faith,” “by faith from first to last,” and “beginning and ending in faith.”
 8. From where is Paul quoting at the end of verse 17? What does this tell us about the nature of the gospel?
 9. What implications does verse 17 has regarding our salvation?
 10. What implications does verse 17 has regarding our sanctification?
- General Bible study questions:
 - What does this passage teach me about the character of God?
 - What does this passage teach me about myself and my need for God?
 - How does this passage teach me that God has met my needs in the person and work of Jesus Christ?
 - How should I respond with my affections and my actions?

ACCOUNTABILITY

Relationships developed and deepened during accountability provide regular encouragement, and when necessary admonition, to spur each other on to delight in the supremacy of Jesus Christ. Ask one another heart-probing, clarifying questions, and help each other apply the gospel to your lives.

QUESTION: Where have you seen God’s grace in cultivating relationships with those who are different than you? Is this an area in your life that needs intentional development? If so, how might you go about doing that?

Spend time praying we’d be marked by godly/supernatural, gospel relationships, and God would use this to draw others to himself.