

COMMUNITY GROUP STUDY GUIDE

5 Solas*Solus Christus: In Christ Alone***REVIEW**

Salvation by grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone according to Scripture alone for the glory of God alone. These “5 Solas” have become the tagline of the Protestant Reformation that began 500 years ago. Saints from the past, most notably, Martin Luther, sought to reform the Catholic church by returning to the pure, unadulterated word of God that revealed an assured salvation by the merits of Jesus alone, not by the works of man. Throughout October, we’ll examine these “5 Solas” being reminded of the beauty of the one, true gospel.

APPLY // EPHESIANS 2:1-10

1. Read Ephesians 2:1-10.
2. What does this passage tell you about the character of God? Take time to praise him for his character as shown in this passage?
3. In one sentence, summarize the main point of this passage.
4. How should the truth of this passage humble us?
5. How should this passage inform the way we treat fellow brothers and sisters in Christ?
6. How should this passage inform the way we relate to those who are not trusting Christ?
7. Discuss the ways this passage pulls you forward to heaven.
8. Why do you think Paul is so adamant that we are saved by grace alone through faith alone?
9. How does this passage view the “tension” between faith and works? What does this look like in our own lives?

STUDY // ACTS 4:12

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 Acts 4:1-12.
2. Summarize the situation and unfolding events of this passage.
3. Why are the religious leaders upset with Peter? Why do they want to silence them?
4. Notice that Peter focuses on “Jesus,” “the name of Jesus of Nazareth,” “this Jesus” (v. 2, 7, 10, 11, 12). Why does Peter highlight the name of Jesus?

5. In verse 11 Peter quotes Psalm 118:22. Jesus quoted this same passage in Luke 20:17. What do these things tell us about how Peter viewed Jesus (and how Jesus viewed himself)?
 6. Read Matthew 11:27, John 3:16-18, 36, 14:6; 1 Timothy 2:5-7; and 1 John 5:11-12. How do these verses support what Peter says in verse 12?
 7. What is it about Jesus—his person and work—that make trust in his name alone sufficient for salvation? How is this salvation exclusive? How is this salvation inclusive (cf. Acts 10:43)?
 8. What are some other things we are tempted to trust in for salvation? How do these things let us down? What happens to us when we trust in something other than Jesus for salvation?
 9. How would you explain verse 12 to a friend who is not trusting in Christ but in good works for to be made right with God?
 10. How would you explain verse 12 to a friend who thinks all religions are equally valid as a way to worship God?
- 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 are you trust in something other than Christ Jesus to reconcile you back to God? Praise God for the sufficiency of Jesus!