

We're coming in for a landing on the Creed series.

~~Probably looking series looking at the "I believe in the forgiveness of sins" has ever done.~~

Why is it important to know this stuff?

Because what you believe influences what you do, how you live your life. [Col. 1:9-12]

we are filled then, we go do

~~...the first part of the Ephesians verse gives us a hint at what is biggest.~~

If all you do is do...that's works. Look at Ephesians 2:8-9 - This is not your own doing!!!
The simple point is this: Your Doing doesn't do anything without something bigger going down

Where we're at tonight is looking at that which is bigger.....biggest. (first things first)

The first part of the Ephesians verse gives us a hint at what is biggest.

(BUT GOD - v.4) This is his doing. Our doing is worthless without Him first loving us.
THEN - Eventually, our doing comes into play...verse 10.

But, before we look at anything that requires us to do anything we have to see the forgiveness of sin

Our bottom line is this: Forgiveness of sin unlocks the door of a life lived for God's glory.
(Our Doing is worthless without God's doing.) The Gospel

Our Doing is worthless without God's doing

(without God offering this forgiveness of sin that unlocks the door to a life lived for God's glory)
So tonight...we look at (the forgiveness of sins - God's Doing)

When you think about forgiveness it brings up some questions:

(in the end forgiveness is only needed once someone has messed up or sinned against another.)

When this happens, sin, relationships are broken. *think friendships - parents*

With God....He his holy....Sin cannot be in His presence. This is a problem for sinners.

SO.....What is Sin? Who are the Sinners? What can ~~we do about it~~ be done about it?

What is sin?

[John 3:4] says "sin is lawlessness" It's rejecting to believe or do that which God has set forth.
Sin is missing the mark (perfection) This means we can't do what we're expected to do.
(Our doing is worthless without God's doing) We need help, do you see this?

Who are the sinners?

Sin is simply us rejecting to do what God has commanded we do.
Things that are for our good and His glory. We often reject these, this is sin (both small and big)

[Romans 3:23] says we all have sinned and come short of the glory of God, what's expected. → Rom. 8:3-4
This is in an Anglican Prayer Book: ((SCREEN)) *We could not*

What can be done about it?

[Romans 5:8] - the good news is God did act on our behalf. This is God's doing. He did this →
Through Christ we see a beautiful picture of God DOING.

Through Christ we can be reconciled to God. Relationship Restored.
This is the culmination of Jesus' work on the cross. Forgiveness is possible. This is God's Doing [COL. 1:13-20]
That is so beautiful and only something God could do and bring about...and HE DID

If our sins were unforgivable where would we be? A bad place right?

Imagine doing something that messed up a relationship and there was nothing you could do to fix it.

*you ever been there....depending on another to forgive you in hopes of reconciling?

It just wears on you...you feel horrible but can't do anything.

No outward change can take it back but you carry it with you every second.

That is the reality of sin without forgiveness. Doing wrong without there being a way to right this wrong.

That's where we were until God acted on our behalf through Christ. Forgiveness now available.
But God

HEAR THIS - The more aware you are of having failed God & others will haunt you.
Without forgiveness you have no peace. - no rest

Martin Luther said this to a guy who was distressed about his sin: (SCREEN)

Even in the midst of forgiveness we must never forget who it is that is responsible for our salvation and this great forgiveness lest we live for something other than HIM

This forgiveness is needed continuously not just at the point of Salvation but each day of your life.

For those that follow Christ, you've been forgiven of your sins but you still sin.

You don't need to be saved again, you ARE His child, you just need forgiveness.

Think about your friendship & drama for a minute.

Ever had drama? Sure. Sometimes drama ends friendships for good....why?

Someone either didn't seek forgiveness or someone didn't forgive.

Forgiveness needed to happen...not meeting each other for the first time.

~~You can't undo meeting for the first time...you can't begin fresh.~~

~~Relationships that end forever.~~

As a child of God...you have been forgiven. Paul uses the word Justified. → 1 Cor. 6:9-11 v. 11 - Key Verse

Now get this....this helps us see this clearly.

Justification is forgiveness plus

Justification is not only a washing of the past (forgiveness) but also acceptance and the gift of righteous status for the future.

You don't start again if you're already a child of God. You seek forgiveness because you want your relationship with God to be at peace, clean, holy, good.

Your future is sealed in Him....pursue that with your life.

- again → forgiveness ~~unlocks~~ brings peace - this is God's doing

So what does this mean for us? What do we do with this?

1. Understand that your doing is worthless without God's doing. → forgiveness of sins

If you're seeking life, understand that life begins with Jesus.

God alone is the giver of life and that life is given through Jesus Christ.

Without Christ there is no peace, no hope or no purpose.

Your doing is worthless without God's doing through Christ.

Simply put, you need forgiveness of sin, you need to be reconciled to God (Do you see this, know this)

Until that moment comes life is really all about you. Until you realize you need help, you're lost.

BUT There is hope in Christ so really the first step is following Christ. Knowing Jesus

2. Seek the Forgiveness of sin that unlocks the door of a life lived for God's glory.

For those who's life is in Christ....you know Him and are seeking to follow Him, Sin still comes in.

We must wage war against this sin....I must seek Christ, FOLLOW JESUS daily

I must realize that each day I need HIM.

We must unlock this dependence on God and get rid of the sufficiency of ourselves.

This cripples the effect of the Gospel in our life each and every day.

But when in sin, we must come clean. HOW? I come clean before Him, others, I seek forgiveness.

Only God can forgive and what He requires of me is to confess sin and turn from it and then to wage war on sin. Quit treading lightly...call it out, deal with it.

STOP LIVING IN THE MUDDY PLACES AND LIVE IN THE LIGHT OF JESUS CHRIST

- Live the Gospel
forgive as you've been forgiven

Very simple tonight - Forgiveness of sin is a reality. It's from God through Jesus Christ.

It's a gift from God, it's all His doing. Without it we are forever lost and living in our sin.

Through Christ we can be saved from sin and into His marvelous light + live a life for His glory

→ You can't walk through life thinking unconfessed sin will simply go away.

it will continue to haunt and steal joy and peace from you until you deal with it.

So deal with it.

Apart from Christ you're hopeless....so come to Him, seek forgiveness

As a child of God you're miserable in sin...so come to Him, seek forgiveness,

Our doing is worthless without God's doing.

What an incredible thing He has done....let's live in that provision rather than our own.