

Life Group Discussion Notes 13

Believe the Gospel and Take on a New Identity

Adapted from Louis Luo's sermon on 20th July 2008

Ice breaker (5 mins)

We have heard the word of Gospel for a long time. What is Gospel? List at least three points.

Word Study (20 mins)

1. Gospel is the power of salvation.

Read Romans 1:16. What does God save people from?

Read Matthew 1:21, What will Jesus save his people from?

2. Scholars often say that Jesus preached the Constitution of the Kingdom in Book of Matthews. Read Matthew 4:23. Do you agree with this viewpoint?

3. Gospel is about believe and get blessed.

Take turns to read the Beatitudes (eight blessings), Matthew 5:3-10.

Read Psalms 32:1

There are two views:

- (1) It is only when we meet the criteria such as "poor in spirit, mourning" can we be blessed.
- (2) Being "poor in spirit, mourning" is only the current situation of a person. Believe in the Gospel you can be then blessed. Therefore, the 8 Beattitudes is actually ONE, that is life transformation.

Which view is more agreeable with the Bible?

4. Believing in the Gospel is about a change in your identity.

Read Matthew 5:13a, and Psalm 103:14

What is our formed from?

Read Romans 4:5, “ However, to the man who does not work but trusts God who justified the wicked, his faith is credited to him as righteousness”. God is one who justified a sinner into a righteous person.

What change has taken place in our identity?

Applications (5 min.)

- Are you going through any “identity crisis”? If so, I would like to invite you to accept Jesus and become the child of eternal God. Others will pray for you.
- Examine your life behaviours, are you uncertain about your identity as a Christian, or are you absolutely sure? If you’re uncertain, let the Life Group leader pray for you to increase your faith.
- Let all prayer to proclaim our new identity in Christ, as 2 Corinthians 5:17, “If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!”