

# The Facilitator

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Community Groups @ Trinity Presbyterian Church

5/13/18

**Text: Romans 10:8-17 (ESV)**

**Title: We Believe So We Speak**

**Teacher: Tim Rice**

## **Surrender through Prayer:**

*Surrender through prayers for Illumination and Transformation, asking that Jesus would meet with you in this time.*

## **Engage with the Sermon**

*Read the passage together*

In Tim's sermon we looked at Romans 10 as Paul lays out the pattern of the Gospel in the lives of God's people. That there is a need, both for belief in Jesus, and for a confession of that faith, both for our sakes, and for the sake of others. As we saw from Tim's message, there is an absolute necessity in our lives for Jesus' grace and mercy, and yet, we live ashamed and embarrassed by Him, as if He's an uncool parent that's going to ruin our fun, our plans or our reputation. Although we may think we believe in Him, we live our lives and plan our futures for pleasure, fun, ease, comfort and wealth, and find our need and desire for Jesus woefully lacking. As Tim said, if Jesus is not essential to our lives, then we are *playing* at religion and not truly following Him. The amazing reality of the Gospel is that Jesus went gone on public record for us in the midst of our deepest, messiest disgrace and shame, and it's that kind of love that should make us unable to resist going on public record for Him, and living our lives devoted to and centered on Him above all else. Anything else we pursue in this life is really just a pursuit of Him, we simply don't realize it; because He is all we really, truly need.

## **Reflection Questions:**

- 1. Tim said the word "Confess" literally means "to say the same". So when we "confess our faith", we agree and say the same thing God does about who Jesus is. And yet, we still live our lives and plan our futures as if He isn't absolutely essential.*
  - What things, now or in the future, do you treat as more vital to your success in life than having Jesus? (i.e. what have you pursued to replace Him?)**
  - What arenas of your life do you live as if they're completely separated and independent from your faith in Jesus?**
- 2. Tim told the story of the boy who'd fallen into the septic water, and covered with sewage, ran to his father, who willingly greeted him with outstretched arms.*
  - How have you experienced being met in the midst of your deepest shame?**
  - What draws you to love and praise God for who He is, and how He's treated you?**
- 3. As Tim said, it is a miracle that Jesus, before the foundation of the world, would commit himself to suffer and die to go on record for broken people like you and me.*
  - What does Holy Spirit still need to change in your heart for you to confess Jesus in all arenas of your life, and find Him to be the most essential aspect of your life and future?**

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## **WORSHIP AND PRAYER:**

### **A.C.T.S.**

*(Spend time in prayer and worship as you consider Adoring God the Father, Confessing your sin and weakness, giving thanks to Jesus, and asking Holy Spirit to transform you. Use this as a time to talk to God about what's been revealed in your heart from this sermon.)*

**1. ADORATION** *(The Father)*

***Adore and Worship God for His attributes and actions***

**2. CONFESSION** *(Me)*

***Spend time Confessing sin and ways in which you are finite and limited***

**3. THANKSGIVING** *(Jesus)*

***Give thanks to Jesus for his salvation (past, present, future)***

**4. SUPPLICATION** *(Holy Spirit)*

***Ask Holy Spirit to transform you in specific ways***

**5. Prepare for Gospel Community** *(My Neighbor)*

***Pray for those who are on your heart, that God would use you to impact them with His gospel message.***

### **Prayer Items**

- 1. Worship the LORD for His surpassing worth and holiness. Praise Him, Father, Son and Holy Spirit that He is merciful and generous to enter into our shame, in Christ, in order to save us.*
- 2. How have your words (or silence) been evidence of your unbelief in Christ's power and grace? Confess your empty-heartedness to Jesus and ask Him to forgive you and fill you instead with His love and power.*
- 3. Give thanks to Jesus that He is true - in all that He says of us and in all that He says of Himself. Thank Him for His unrivaled trustworthiness and for His grace to save all who call on Him.*
- 4. Who do you know that lives in shame because of their failings? Pray for them, asking the Lord to 1) help you truly love them with the love of Jesus, and 2) that He would open their eyes to hope in Christ.*
- 5. Ask the Spirit to help you in communicating and living out His grace to your friends, neighbors and co-workers who do not yet know Christ. Ask Him to work in you and in them producing the faith that we cannot produce.*