

Communion

7/30/18

What is the essence of the Gospel? We have been talking about that in our class on how to share our faith. It is also the very thing that we are called to remember when we celebrate Communion. Jesus told His disciples, to remember His death. (Luke 22)

Remembering Jesus' death is more than simply an intellectual assent to historical facts. It certainly is that, but it is much more than that. Jesus did physically come to earth and live a sinless life. He was crucified on the cross, and rose bodily from the grave. He is bodily returning again to receive those who are His own to Himself. Those are absolutely unique and amazing facts. A song that we sang on Sunday has been running through my head. "Living He loved me. Dying He saved me. Buried He carried my sins far away. Rising He justified, freely forever. One day He's coming, oh glorious day!" What a great summary of the truth of the Gospel of Jesus, the Christ.

It seems that Jesus instituted the ordinance of Communion because He knew we need to constantly be reminded. That is a common theme in Scripture. In the Old Testament, God's people were instructed to build memorials to what God had done for them. We tend to forget so we need to stop and remember. We get busy doing, doing, doing. Often it is good stuff that we are doing, but doing tends to consume our energy. Sometimes we need to stop doing and simply remember what God has done for us, rather than what we think we need to do for Him. (Psalm 46:10)

John 3:16 is packed with almost unbelievable truth. Almost. The reality is that it is unbelievable on human terms. It is almost unbelievable, because it is impossible for us as humans to accomplish. Only God could accomplish the redemption of mankind.

Think of the truths expressed in **John 3:16**. Meditate on them one at a time.

- God so loved the world.
- That He gave His one and only Son.
- That whoever believes in Him (by faith believes the almost unbelievable).
- Should not perish.
- But have everlasting life.

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER:

1. Which of those statements is not overwhelming when we think about them?

2. Which one captures your attention the most right now?

