

Alderwood Community Church
May 28, 2017

God's Grand Story – Paul's Letters

Big Idea: It's all about relationships!

Paul's letters address three big questions Christ followers need to answer.

1. How do we relate to _____?

Answer: By grace through _____.

(Ephesians 2:8-9; Romans 3:9, 21-25a; 1 Corinthians 6:9-11)

2. How do we relate to one another _____ _____ _____?

Answer: With _____, by humbly caring for, and serving one another.

(1 Corinthians 12:12-13; Philippians 2:1-8)

3. How do we relate to people _____ _____ _____ ?

Answer: With _____, compassion and boldness.

(Colossians 4:5-6; 2 Corinthians 5:14-20)

Sermon Questions:

1. How do you think Paul felt when he discovered that his zealous activities were actually opposing God's plan rather than supporting it? (p.76 of *God's Grand Story*)

What effect might that awareness have on his character in the future?

2. Read **Philippians 1:21-24**. What does this passage tell us about Paul? What does it tell us about the value of knowing Jesus? (p. 90)

3. Read **Romans 3:9, 21-25a**. What do these verses reveal to us about mankind's universal problem and God's solution?

4. Read **Philippians 2:5-11**. In what ways can we express the attitude of Jesus portrayed in this passage? How would that impact churches? How would it impact society in general? (p. 90)

5. What particular act of love is God impressing on you to express to an unbeliever he has placed in your life?

6. Which of the three relationships (with God, with another believer, or with an unbeliever) addressed in Pastor Brad's sermon/Paul's epistles, is God directing your attention? What are you going to do about that relationship?

7. Much of Paul's ministry was about "passing the torch" on to future leaders. How can we as a church ensure that the torch of the gospel continues to be carried? What role do you play in that task?