

Follow Up Questions from message on Sunday, October 15, 2017

Lutheran Like Us Series – What if?

Re-read: John 8:31-36

1. The story of Martin Luther and the reformation has lots of detail in it. What did the short video about the reformation teach you? You can rewatch the video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D7gtYwQ1ubk&t=3s>

2. What questions do you have about the reformation? If you have the capabilities, search reformation explanations on youtube.com and watch a video or two.

3. Claire talked about Luther's response at this trial. Here is the quote

"Since your most serene majesty and your high mightinesses require of me a simple, clear and direct answer, I will give one, and it is this: I cannot submit my faith either to the pope or to the council, because it is as clear as noonday that they have fallen into error and even into glaring inconsistency with themselves. If, then, I am not convinced by proof from Holy Scripture, or by plain reasons, if I am not satisfied by the very text I have cited, and if my judgment is not in this way brought into subjection to God's word, I neither can nor will retract anything; for it cannot be either safe or honest for a Christian to speak against his conscience. Here I stand; I cannot do otherwise; God help me! Amen.

What is Luther saying in this statement?

4. Luther's beliefs all rest in what he read in scripture. What is Jesus saying to us in the passage from John 8.

5. What are the ways you are a slave to sin? Claire talked about three ways sin often shows up. 1) When we try to control our situation and tell got you can handle it on your own. 2) When we trust in our own goodness, skills, or other outside validation for our worth. 3) When we claim that God is important in our lives but our calendars, checkbooks, and actions don't support that claim.

6. The Good news is that Jesus frees us from all the things that hold us captive. Why do we need to recognize the depth on our sin to understand the depth of God's love for us? Which is easier to accept our sinfulness or our forgiveness?

7. For Luther, baptism is the cornerstone of our life because in Baptism we are joined to Christ death on the cross and his resurrection to new life. What is the new life you receive in Baptism? How can you daily remember your baptism, die to your sinful self and be raised to new life?

8. What is the new life God is calling you to?