

Cross of Hope Making Faith Connections Small Group Ministry

October 27, 2024

Getting Our Bearings

Who is Free in Christ?

15 Minutes

Gathering, Hospitality, Check-in with Each Other...

Where have you seen God make a change in you/someone you love/the church?

What does 'freedom' look like?

Opening Prayer Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. (ELW p58)

45 Minutes

Discussion Questions:

Read again John 8: 31-36

What do you notice about this story as you read/hear it this time?

What is challenging or confusing as you read/hear it this time?

How does this passage invite us to reflect on the question 'Who free in Christ?'

Explore the connection between Jesus' word, truth, faith and life underlying this text.

How are those who follow Jesus free?

What impact does that have on life?

What is the role of faith in this freedom?

What does it mean/look like/feel like to abide in Jesus?

The gift of baptism reminds us of God's gift of grace that we are always being made new through forgiveness and salvation.

In what ways are our lives a response to this gift?

How does someone continue/remain/abide in God's word?

What role does the church have in this life of faith?

Read again Romans 3: 19-28

What do you notice about this story as you read/hear it this time?

How is the gift of grace proclaimed in this reading?

Read again Jeremiah 31:31-34

What do you notice about this story as you read/hear it this time?

What is the good news you hear in this passage?

20 Minutes

Prayer Requests and Prayer

10 Minutes **Wrap Up and Get Ready to Leave Session:** Conversation about details for the next session...place, day, time, and volunteer Host. Remember...bring a Bible, watch the Sunday worship and sermon in preparation for the group session.



FRIENDS ♦ FAITH ♦ EVERYDAY LIFE

Maximum amount of time...90 minutes. Time used for each component is flexible depending on the agreed upon needs of the group for that session.