

Sunday, May 19, 2019 - "Free: Week 3 - Free to be One" - Doug Kempton

Key Passages: Galatians 3:26-29, John 17:20-21, Galatians 3:1

- Feel free to read the passage(s) out loud as a group
- Allow the group to share freely about what stood out to them from the passage or from Sunday's message

Main Ideas

- In Galatians we're hearing one side of a conversation → context matters
 - The letter is written to a group of followers of Jesus
 - They've gotten off track (added good works to the Gospel)
- Galatians 5:1 → we can be free
 - We can also create bondage (sin, good works theory, idols)
 - We are BELOVED, ADOPTED, FREE → **This is your identity and it's high time you lived like it**
 - Identity is what sets us free (Breath prayer from last week: Live into and out of our true identity "Father...I'm loved by you")
- Galatians 3:26-29 (also Jesus' priestly prayer in John 17:20-21)
- v28... "For you are all one in Christ Jesus"
 - Jesus' prayer in John 17 is answered (that we would be one like Jesus and the Father are one)
 - But...it doesn't always feel/look/seem that way
 - We all have individual and different **identity markers** BUT they must be secondary to our true identity in Christ
- "Identity markers are different expressions of who we are. These labels embody characteristics that have meaning to us and the society in which we exist." - Chad Rinando
- We cloth ourselves with identity markers (literally i.e. jerseys and t-shirts and figuratively)
- Paul is saying: every identity marker in your life has to be secondary to Christ (cloth ourselves in Jesus)
- When other identity markers come to the top → it creates conflict
- Being a mosaic (our mission at Grace) comes with a lot of challenges...it's complicated
 - More variance in identity markers → more potential for conflict
 - One in Christ → peace in the body
 - We have to realize that sometimes it's not about us
 - Our identity in Christ must be above all others
- The media/social media is playing us and wants to create division
- We can have diverging opinions and still be one
- In this church we will use the language of Paul (no Greek nor Jew, no black nor white, no rich nor poor etc.) and clothe ourselves in Christ
- Jesus prayed that we would be one as he and the Father are one → Paul says: It is finished, **WE ARE ONE**

Questions (Feel free to use all of these, some of these, or none of these)

1. What are some of your identity markers? How do they affect your relationships?
2. Which of your identity markers are the hardest to make secondary to your identity in Christ? Why?
3. What does it mean to you that we are one?
4. How is God calling you to live out our oneness and clothe yourself in Christ?
5. What are some action steps you can take to battle against the media/social media trying to divide us?
6. What have you learned about living out the mosaic?
7. What is God inviting you into as a result of this passage or sermon?

****15 Minutes with God Reading Plan-**

Mon: Hosea 6 Tues: Hosea 7 Wed: Hosea 8 Thurs: Hosea 9 Fri: Hosea 10

Songs from the weekend: [Higher - Grace Worship] - [Raise a Hallelujah - *Bethel Music*] - [New Wine- Hillsong Worship] - [Only Jesus - *Bethel Music*]