

LOVE

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another... (John 13:34)

- *Internal*: How was your week...anything new?! How is your walk with the Lord? Did you have any opportunities to share the Lord with anyone?
- External: Is there any individual or family who is struggling or needs encouragement? How can we pray, encourage, and show love to them?

TRUTH

Let the word of God dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another... (Col. 3:16)

- 1. When you reflect on the message from Sunday, what most resonated with you? [Dialogue]
- 2. Let's read our primary text. The Bible provides ample evidence for the doctrine of the Trinity. Where in this text do you find evidence of this? What are some other examples in the Bible?
 - v.26, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness" (plural divine deliberation)
 - Genesis 1:1 "And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters"
 - Jesus' baptism Father, Son and Spirit present
- 3. In this text, God provides profound instruction for mankind. Scholars call this the "creation mandate." What is it?
 - "Be Fruitful and Multiply / Rule and Subdue"
- 4. Does us having dominion mean that we have the right to do whatever we please with creation? Why or why not?
 - This mandate is a responsibility to be God's representation on earth. We are royal figures, viceregents, co-heirs with God designed and purposed to rightly represent him in *how* we rule and have dominion over the earth. This means we are to care for all of God's creation in a responsible manner, not to neglect or deal harshly with it.
- 5. Mankind is the pinnacle of God's creation. Why is our humanness and image bearing (*the Imago Dei*) so special?
 - Unlike other created beings, we were uniquely created to hear and receive God's word. We are also moral spiritual beings that were given responsibilities. We have the unique capacity to live and with commune God.
- 6. After the Fall, was our "Image" or likeness completely destroyed? Why or why not? Our image was not destroyed but it was certainly marred. What was destroyed was our original righteousness that God created us with. We existed in harmony with God in creation in utter Shalom (perfect peace).
- 7. How does this text cause us to change? What does it make you consider in your own life? [Dialogue]

8. How might you share this passage/truth with someone else? A child? A family member? [Dialogue]

GREAT COMMISSION

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations... (Matt. 28:19-20)

- Is there anyone that needs an invite to our church or this group?
- Is there anyone you know who needs to hear what we learned today in God's word?
- Does anyone here need a "refresher" on how to share the gospel?

CONFESSION/PRAYER/REPENTANCE

But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called "today,"... (Heb. 3:12-14)

- Confession is agreeing with God about our sin according to the Scriptures. Without getting too specific, is there anything you want to confess before the group? [apathy, idolatry, selfishness, jealousy, anger, envy]
- Let's pray, asking God to help us apply his word to our lives, putting to death sinful desires.

HOMEWORK:

- Memorize our weekly "Fighter Verse" - Isaiah 43:25

Sources:

- ESV Study Bible (Crossway)