

ONLY THE BROKEN

Week 3 | Only The Broken | August 9, 2015

Opening Up:

In your everyday life, what is something you are absolutely rigid about, but no one else is? What is something you just don't care about, but someone else does?

Reference: Galatians 2:1-10

Discuss:

1. Briefly explain the doctrine of salvation by faith alone in terms that an unbeliever with no Bible knowledge could understand.
2. Why does it rob God of glory when we add to faith other requirements for justification?
3. How do people attempt to justify themselves today?
4. Why is Galatians 2:5 an important verse? When do Christians need this conviction in contemporary society?
5. Paul was passionate about church unity. Why is 1 Corinthians 15:11 an important reminder? When do you see people taking too much pride in who shared the gospel?
6. Paul was rigid in his protection of the gospel, yet Paul was flexible in his missional purpose. How can you apply the missional flexibility of 1 Corinthians 9:22 while being rigid about the gospel? What makes this challenging?
7. Do you agree with this statement: "We must do everything short of sinning to share the Good News of Jesus Christ." Why or why not?
8. In light of Galatians 2:10, read this from Martin Luther: "Now, as concerning faith we ought to be invincible, and more hard, if it might be, than the adamant stone; but as touching charity, we ought to be soft, and more flexible than the reed or leaf that is shaken with the wind, and ready to yield to everything." Do you feel a tension between loving the poor and loving the lost? Are you biased to one or the other? Should there be a tension? Why?
9. Luther referred to justification by faith as the doctrine on which the church stands or falls. Why does this doctrine affect everything about the church's life and witness?
10. Pray.