

Sermon Outline – October 22, 2017

Our Reformation 2017: Outreach

Jeremiah 31:31-34 John 13:33-35

1. What is the reformation to which God is calling _____?

2. Our Reformation 2017: _____ – to change our behavior so as to become _____.

What does this mean?

- To reach out to those outside of St. Luke with the love of Jesus in hopes that they would be drawn to _____.

- The word evangelical originated from a word that means to _____.

- The “good news” _____ is the eternal salvation Jesus Christ has given us through his death and resurrection.

- To be evangelical means to _____.

3. The “old” covenant was a covenant of _____ morality.

- 445 years before the birth of Jesus, Nehemiah, the Persian governor of Judea, who was Jewish prayed, “Remember the instruction you (God) gave your servant Moses, saying, ‘**If you** are unfaithful, **(then) I will** scatter you among the nations,’ but **if you** return to me and obey my commands, **then** even if your exiled people are at the farthest horizon, **I will** gather them from there and bring them to the place I have chosen as a dwelling for my Name.” Nehemiah 1:8-9

- What is this vertical if-then morality?

- What are the problems with this morality?

4. Throughout OT there were hints given that something new, something better, was coming to replace this covenant. Six hundred years before Jesus, God spoke through the prophet Jeremiah these words “*The days are coming,*” declares the Lord, “*when I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and with the people of Judah.*” Jeremiah 31:31

- God explains this new covenant, “*It will not be like the covenant I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt, because they broke my covenant, though I was a husband to them,*” declares the Lord. Jeremiah 31:32
What is a great problem with the old covenant?

- God continues, “*This is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel after that time,*” declares the Lord. “**I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people.**” Jeremiah 31:33 What does this mean?

- And then God says, “*No longer will they teach their neighbor, or say to one another, ‘Know the Lord,’ because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest,*” declares the Lord. “**For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more.**” Jeremiah 31:34

- The earliest Christians understood that _____ brought in the new covenant. After quoting this passage from the prophet Jeremiah, the writer of Hebrews wrote, *By calling this covenant “new,” God has made the first one _____; and what is obsolete and outdated will soon disappear.* Hebrews 8:13

5. Then Jesus took the cup, saying, “This cup is the _____ **in my blood**, which is poured out for you ... **for the forgiveness of sins.**” Luke 22:20, Matthew 26:28 What does this mean?

6. Then Jesus made a radical move that is the foundation for our reformation in 2017. Then Jesus said, “A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.” John 13:34-35 Why is this a radical move?

7. Next Step: Give up any thought that my position with God depends on keeping God happy and simply find ways to _____