

Checking In

1. Take a few minutes to check in with everyone, see how they are doing, and open with prayer.
2. Church Life: Belong Class (Membership) begins May 20th, Prayer Retreat June 3rd for Small Groups

Learning

Knowing God

Key Doctrines

- *God* – God’s character is marked by both justice and mercy.
- *Christ* – Jesus’ death on the cross was a debt payment, in which God, in Christ, willing incurred the cost of our sin.
- *Christian Life* – Mercy is to be a defining feature of the Christian’s relationship to others.

Key Observations

- What was anything that stood out to you about this week’s sermon, or what did you take away?
- *Read:* Matthew 18:21-35; Psalm 40:11; 51:1; 69:16; 145:9; James 2:13
 - What does the parable teach us about the relationship, in God’s character, of justice and mercy?

- What do the psalms repeatedly teach us about God’s character?

- What does the passage in James teach us about the relationship between justice and mercy?

- *Read:* Read Matthew 18:21-35; Colossians 2:13-15; Romans 6:23; Isaiah 53:1-12
 - How do these passages talk about the death of Jesus in relation to debt?

- How does Jesus’ death satisfy God’s justice and open us to God’s mercy?

- *Read:* Matthew 18:21-35; Luke 6:36; James 2:8-13
 - What is the clear relationship between the king's mercy and his expectation of his servant in the parable?

- What does the passage in James teach us about God's expectations of us?

- This week I am committed to praying for _____ about:

Checking Out

- What was most meaningful about this group session for you (*Give each person 1-2 sentences to share*)?

- Close in Prayer and Read James 2:13.

Listening

Responding to God

- In light of hearing this week's sermon, our study together, and listening to God's Word, how might God be inviting you to take a step of obedience?

Loving

Obeying God

- What is happening in my own life right now that I need to share and for which I need prayer?