

## Growing Together Discussion Questions from Sunday's Sermon – Nov. 3, 2013

(For Personal Study, Review, Meditation and Mid-Week Group Discussion)

### I. **Getting to know you** ~ Questions just for fun:

- a. Pumpkin pie or Apple pie?
- b. Squash or Mash Potatoes?
- c. Turkey or Ham...or Pizza? \*

### II. **Getting into the Bible** ~ Points from Sunday's Message:

#### **What do you believe about Jesus?**

- a. You either honor Jesus as God or you dishonor him as something less.

- b. Scripture: *Early Hymns & Creeds:*

- i. Philippians 2:6-11

*Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*

- ii. Colossians 1:15-20

*He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.*

- iii. The Apostle's Creed:

*I believe in God the Father, Almighty; Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; the third day he rose from the dead: he ascended into heaven; and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting, Amen.*

- c. Points from Sundays Message:

- i. What we believe about Jesus:

- 1. Jesus is eternally God.
    - 2. Jesus was born of a virgin and became fully God & fully man in one body.
    - 3. Jesus lived a sinless life.
    - 4. Jesus died on the cross as a voluntary substitutionary sacrifice.
    - 5. Jesus rose bodily from the dead – never to die again.
    - 6. Jesus is mankind's only eternal hope.
    - 7. Jesus is a gift – and the gospel is news, not instructions.

8. Jesus, alive today, serves us as our Great High Priest.
  9. Jesus is coming again as Savior, King and Judge.
- ii. How what we believe matters personally:
1. We believe Jesus is essential and sufficient. We gladly trust Him as our Savior.
  2. We believe Jesus is right. We gladly come under His authority as Lord.
  3. We believe Jesus is desirable. We gladly claim Jesus as our friend.

### III. **Getting into Life:**

- a. What is the first thing that comes to your mind when asked: *What do you believe about Jesus?*  
What do you believe about Jesus that wasn't included in this Sunday's sermon?
- b. How does the fact that the gospel is news and not instructions influence your personal response to the gospel? How does it influence your telling others about Jesus?
- c. Do you think that Jesus' sufferings were enough to pay for all your sins? Are you willing to rely on his work to pay for all your sins? Is Jesus worthy of your full trust?
- d. Do you think Jesus' life was good enough to deserve God's full approval? Are you willing to rely on it for your eternal destiny? Which would you rather trust in for your eternal standing before God: your own life or Jesus'?
- e. Jesus is Savior, Lord and Friend. How does this reality influence your relationship with Him today?

\*Hazen's voted Pizza.