

Small Group Study Guide for February 3, 2019

Our Savior Lutheran Church and School

Theme: There are a lot of "Self Help" books, and "Do It Yourself" resources these days. And yet when it comes to spiritual questions and spiritual truths, we find ourselves at a complete loss – unless we look to the Good News of God's Word. This is why the Word of God forms the core of our worship services. Giving our attention to the reading and preaching of God's Word – that's The Way We Worship.

Getting Started:

1.	Three weeks into our "The Way We Worship" series, what questions do you still have about our
	customs, beliefs and practices regarding our worship on Sunday mornings?

2.	If we can read our Bibles at home – then why is it so important to come and hear God's Word
	proclaimed at church on Sunday mornings?

In the Word: Isaiah 55:6-11

- 3. "My ways are higher than your ways..." (v. 9) How is God's ways higher than our ways and his thoughts higher than our thoughts? Why is that *both* frustrating and comforting?
- 4. How is God's Word like "the rain and snow that come down from heaven" (v. 10)? Wow, have we had a lot of snow lately!
- 5. God says that His Word will accomplish the purpose for which He sent it. What are the purposes that God might have in sending forth His word?

Read Romans 10:12-17

6. What is Paul's main point of verses 12 & 13?

7. Trace the line of questions in verses 14 – 15. Write out the key words in each question that Paul asks, and the chain of thought he is creating. What is Paul trying to get across?
8. How does God "send" people to "preach" today?
9. Verse 17 states the critical connection between faith/believing and hearing/speaking the message o Christ. Why does this verse make our evangelism efforts so critical to the Kingdom of God?
10. Read 2 Timothy 4:1-5. While Paul charged Timothy with his duty to "preach the word" – not everyone would respond favorably to the message of Christ. This has happened since the beginning of time. Some have believed the word/message, and others have rejected it. Why that happens is a mystery known only to God. What is Paul's encouragement to Timothy in verse 5?
Worship Connections: 11. How many times do we speak or hear God's Word during a worship service? Make a list.
12. Why is it so important to also be reading our Bible and studying God's Word personally throughout the week?
13. What power does God attach to the proclamation of His word in Romans 1:16?
Prayer: Thank God for the blessing that His Word is in our lives. Ask the Holy Spirit to help us read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest the Word of God on a regular basis, and that our preachers would publically and boldly proclaim it in worship. Ask God to strengthen the ways our congregation shares God's Word, publically and as individuals in our day to day lives. Next Week – The Way We Worship: The Lutheran Church for centuries has been known as "The Singing Church." Music has always been important to God's people when it comes to praising God and giving Him

thanks for the gifts and blessings He brings. Let's make a joyful noise to the Rock of our Salvation!