CHURCH OF THE
Good Shepherd

Sermon Discussion Questions: November 1, 2026

The Power of Proclaiming the Gospel

Passage: Romans 1:16-17

1. The gospel is good news, not good advice. Simon described the gospel as the announcement of what God has done through Jesus Christ—his life, death, and resurrection—to save us. What is the difference between approaching Christianity as a set of instructions for becoming a better person and receiving it as the good news of what God has done for us? Where are you most tempted to confuse the two?

2. The danger of self-justification is pride or shame. The sermon suggested that when we rely on our own performance to establish our worth, we will either feel superior to others or inferior to them. Where do you see this tendency in your own life? How might resting in Christ's righteousness free you from both pride and shame?

3. Faith looks away from ourselves and toward Jesus. What does it mean to trust in the object of our faith rather than the strength or quality of our faith? How might this truth encourage someone who struggles with doubts, spiritual dryness, or a sense that they aren't doing enough to be a good Christian?

4. The gospel should shape our life together. The sermon identified three ways the gospel shapes CGS: our worship, our community, and our witness. Which of these do you think is most challenging for us as a church? What would it look like for the gospel to more deeply shape the way we worship together, handle conflict, extend grace, or engage our neighbors?

5. The gospel meets us in our powerlessness. Simon encouraged us to bring the places where we feel stuck, ashamed, afraid, or unable to change to Jesus rather than simply trying harder. Is there an area of your life where you need to stop relying on yourself and more deeply trust Christ? What might it look like to take a practical step of faith in that area this week?