

SUNDAY RECAP | CHRIST COMMUNITY CHURCH

The *Sunday Recap* is a quick rundown of our time of worship together on Sunday and a quick look ahead. Our hope is that this will help us continue to reflect on the good news of the gospel all week long. Enjoy!

RECAP FOR: Sunday, October 14th, 2018

Take me directly to:

1. [PREPARE for this Sunday](#)
2. [REFLECT on last Sunday](#)
3. [Further Reflection and Study](#) (resources, questions, etc.)
4. [Resources for Kids \(and Parents\)](#)
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PREPARE FOR THIS SUNDAY [\(back to table of contents\)](#)

// Prayer of Preparation //

Loving Father, oh how we need to hear your word today. I need to hear from you. We need the good news once again that we're yours, you love us, and you have provided everything we need in Christ. Prepare our hearts to receive what you have for us today. Nourish our faith and deepen our love for one another. In Christ name we pray, Amen.

// Call to Worship //

Psalm 136:1-9

Leader: Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,

Congregation: for his steadfast love endures forever.

Leader: Give thanks to the God of gods,

Congregation: for his steadfast love endures forever.

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord of lords,

Congregation: for his steadfast love endures forever.

Leader: to him who alone does great wonders,

Congregation: for his steadfast love endures forever.

Leader: to him who by understanding made the heavens,

Congregation: for his steadfast love endures forever.

Leader: to him who spread out the earth above the waters,

Congregation: for his steadfast love endures forever.

Leader: to him who made the great lights,

Congregation: for his steadfast love endures forever.

Leader: the sun to rule over the day,

Congregation: for his steadfast love endures forever.

Leader: the moon and stars to rule over the night,

Congregation: for his steadfast love endures forever.

// Prayer of Confession //

Father, the more we delve into the depths of our sin, the uglier and more heinous it becomes. If we promise to do better, we lie. If we try to clean ourselves up, we are frauds. If we give because we feel guilty, we are schemers. If we serve to feel good about ourselves, we are self-righteous. If we pray only to get what we want, we are self-serving. If we read your Word so you will be pleased with us, we are manipulators. The selfish motivations of even our best actions condemn us. Please forgive us and help us to look only to the life-saving, life-giving, life-changing power of Your Son Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

// Assurance of Pardon //

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God
Ephesians 2:8

// Passing of the Peace //

But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility
- Ephesians 2:13–14

Pastoral Prayer and Offering

Sermon- "But God..." Ephesians 2:1-10

// Benediction //

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.
—2 Corinthians 13:13

Leader: Go in the love of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
Peace be with you!

Congregation: And Also with you!

REFLECT ON LAST SUNDAY [\(back to table of contents\)](#)

// Prayer of Preparation //

Fill our worship with grace, Lord Jesus Christ,
that every thought, word, and deed may be acceptable to you,
our Rock and our Redeemer. Amen.
—based on Psalm 19:14

// Call to Worship //

Leader: With joy we praise you, gracious God,
for you created heaven and earth, made us in your image,
and kept covenant with us – even when we fell into sin.
You invite us to the cross even in the midst of our brokenness.
In the work of Your Son Jesus You give us life, redeeming and restoring your image in us.

Congregation: We give you thanks for Jesus Christ, our Lord, who by his life, death, and resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

Leader: Therefore we join our voices with the saints and angels and the whole creation to proclaim the glory of your name.

- based on a reading from the Worship Sourcebook

// Prayer of Confession //

Leader: God of birth, God of joy, God of life,
we come to you as a people hungry for good news.
We have been so dead to miracles
that we have missed the world's rebirth.

Congregation: We have preoccupied ourselves with pleasures
and have overlooked the joy you offer us.

Leader: We have been so concerned with making a living
that we have missed the life you set among us.

Congregation: Forgive us, gracious God.

Leader: Open our eyes and our hearts to receive your gift;
open our lips and hands to share it with all humanity in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

// Assurance of Pardon //

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword?
For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

-Romans 8:35,38-39

// Passing of the Peace //

Jesus has restored us back to God. God's righteous anger has been replaced by love and peace. As people who are thankful and amazed that we have peace with the God of the universe, let's take a moment to bless each other with that peace by greeting one another here this morning

Pastoral Prayer and Offering

Sermon- Regrets and the Gospel, Acts 15:36-41

// Benediction //

Leader: The peace of God, which passes all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God,
and of God's Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, remain with you always.

—based on Philippians 4:7

Congregation: And Also with you!

FURTHER REFLECTION & STUDY ([back to table of contents](#))

Scripture to Meditate On:

Acts 15:39–40 And there arose a sharp disagreement, so that they separated from each other. Barnabas took Mark with him and sailed away to Cyprus, but Paul chose Silas and departed, having been commended by the brothers to the grace of the Lord.

Heidelberg Catechism Q & A 2

Q. What must you know to live and die in the joy of this comfort?

A. Three things:

- first, how great my sin and misery are;¹
- second, how I am set free from all my sins and misery;²
- third, how I am to thank God for such deliverance.³

¹ Rom. 3:9-10; 1 John 1:10

² John 17:3; Acts 4:12; 10:43

³ Matt. 5:16; Rom. 6:13; Eph. 5:8-10; 2 Tim. 2:15; 1 Pet. 2:9-10

This Week's Theological Word and Definition:

The Mercy of God

Another aspect of the love of God is his mercy or tender compassion. It is the love of God toward those who are in misery or distress, irrespective of their desires. It contemplates man as one who is bearing the consequences of sin, and is therefore in a pitiable condition. It is exercised only in harmony with the strictest justice of God, in view of the merits of Jesus Christ.

(From Louis Berkhof's *Manual of Christian Doctrine*, p. 67)

Reflection Questions:

- What stuck out to you in this week's sermon?
- What are a couple of your regrets? Why do you regret them? Why do you remember them?
- How would you counsel someone dealing with regret by using the good news of the gospel?
- How does Matthew 6:15 speak to our regrets?
Matthew 6:14–15 For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.
- What would be so great about a life without regret?
- What does Romans 5:1 say to our regrets?
Romans 8:1 There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

Suggested Resources from last week

Articles: [The Offense of the Law and Salvation without Regret](#) by Gretchen Ronnevik
[What About the Past?](#) by Chad West
[Forget Regret](#) by Barry Cooper
[Peace not Shame: The Gospel of Luke Ch.1](#) by Le ann Trees

Devotional: [The Nature of Love](#) by Steve Brown

Ephesians Series Resources we encourage you to grab on Sunday:

[Ephesians Scripture Journal](#) (available on Sundays for \$2)
[Alive in Him](#) by Gloria Furman (available on Sundays for \$5) and accompanying [Study Guide](#) and

Ephesians Resources from Bible Project: <https://thebibleproject.com/explore/ephesians/>

[The book of Ephesians in one graphic](#): (provided by the Bible Project)

RESOURCES FOR KIDS (and Parents) [\(back to table of contents\)](#)

2-minute Video (because we know that's all the time you have) ;)

[Gospel Principles for Parenting: Calling](#) with Paul Tripp

Get the New City Catechism App: <http://newcitycatechism.com/mobile-apps/>

[How Catechism Helps Us Take Life as it Comes](#) (Video)

[New City Catechism Question #25](#)

Q: Does Christ's death mean all our sins can be forgiven?

A: Yes, because Christ's death on the cross fully paid the penalty for our sin, God graciously imputes Christ's righteousness to us as if it were our own and will remember our sins no more.

FAMILY BIBLE TIME GUIDE

Explain the situation with Mark and Paul- Mark was on a trip to tell people about Jesus with Paul and when it got really tough Mark decided to go back home. Now as they set out for another journey a while later, Barnabas suggests they take Mark, but Paul disagrees.

Read Acts 15:36–38

And after some days Paul said to Barnabas, "Let us return and visit the brothers in every city where we proclaimed the word of the Lord, and see how they are." Now Barnabas wanted to take with them John called Mark. But Paul thought best not to take with them one who had withdrawn from them in Pamphylia and had not gone with them to the work.

Questions for Children and Parents to discuss:

- Do you think Mark had a lot of regret when he thought about how he left Paul in the middle of their journey together? Why or why not?
- Do you have any regrets?
- What do you think Jesus says about things we regret?

Prayer

God, we thank you for Jesus. We know that Jesus has died for all our sins, so even though we have regrets and will have more, we can trust that you are teaching us to be more dependent upon you and find more joy in the gospel- the good news that Jesus gives us his past instead of us having to be punished for ours. No one could ever love us more or better than Jesus. Jesus is the best! Thank you God, we love you. Remind us that you love us and always will, no matter what! Amen.

Sermon Review ([back to table of contents](#))

Title: Regrets and the Gospel

Text: Acts 15:36-41

Watch: <https://cccplainfield.org/sermon/regrets-and-the-gospel/>

Podcast: <https://cccplainfield.org/subscribe-to-podcast>

Regrets can own our lives and make us do really strange things, but they don't have to. The gospel has something to say about regrets. Listen to Pastor Robert Livingston tell us what the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ has to say about our regrets. And then look at your regrets square in the face and tell them to shut up (or something like that) ;)