**Small Group Sermon Questions**

**Sunday, March 18, 2018**

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***Images of the Cross******Part 3: Christ our Justifier***

***Opening questions***

1. How are doing in this season of lent focusing on Christ’s suffering and passion?
2. How do you react when being accused of something you did wrong? Share an example.

***Going Deeper Questions***

1. Read Romans 5:1-11. What do you think of with the word justifier? What catches your attention in these verses?
2. Paul spoke to a culture where shame and honour were a big deal. How important are these values in our culture? How might they harm the way we look at life? Read verse 5, ‘hope does not put us to shame’. How does hope do this?
3. What does Paul mean by boasting in this passage? Why is this a ‘good’ thing?
4. Paul talks about the peace our justifier brings us. What do you mean by the word peace? What is Paul talking about? What does John 16:33 say to this?
5. What does Paul say in this passage about hope? How do you keep hope alive in the midst of suffering? How do avoid being ‘trite’ or insensitive?
6. Share a time where you grew through suffering.
7. Count the number of ‘we’ and ‘us’ uses in the passage. How did the message stress the importance of the ‘we’ aspect of this passage? How does this help the individual in the midst of suffering?
8. Read 8:31-39. What does this passage say about justifying? What does this justifying make us?
9. In the message Sid shared a story of a man who missed out on his wife’s love and then she died. While reading her diary her found out how blind he was to his wife’s love. How can we be blind to the love of God?
10. How does the graphic for this message show justification?