



GROWTH GROUP

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Week of 5/17/2020

Confession of Christ and our hope in him is the calling of all who have been baptized. Such confession includes not only our faithful testimony but also our loving obedience to Jesus' commands. As we live out our confession of Christ, we are comforted by the presence of the Spirit whom the Son has sent while we await his return.

Getting Started

What do you miss the most from life a year ago? **Answers will vary with personal experience.**

Into the Word

Read **Acts 17:22-31**.

As Paul visited Athens, so much of the culture must have really disturbed him. Yet how does Paul respond and why does he respond that way? **Paul respond with patience and gentleness. He doesn't get upset with anyone. He calmly talks about what matters most.**

How did Paul make use of Greek "items" readily at his disposal in order to point to the true God? **Many of the philosophers of the day were pantheists. They believed God was in everything. But they confused the Creator with his creation. Paul, pointing to the altar inscribed "TO AN UNKNOWN GOD" and quoting two Greek poets, emphasized that the living Creator-God is unlike the false gods of the Greeks, which were crafted out of stone or metals into an image made by a man. This God, the Creator, is alive. Paul was urging them to repent and turn to the living God.**

Think of some aspects of your society that trouble you. How might you mirror Paul's godly response? **Answers will vary based on what people think of? Use every opportunity to point to Christ.**

Read **John 14:15-21**.

How can Jesus say that the Spirit "lives with you and will be in you"? **The Holy Spirit, together with the Father and the Son, was already at work in the hearts of the disciples bringing them to faith in Jesus. But there was also going to be a special outpouring of the Spirit on the disciples on Pentecost.**

What comfort is ours when Jesus says, "Because I live, you also will live"? **Jesus' living assures our living. In a short while, Jesus would go through crucifixion and death. He would suffer for the guilt of our sins. But then he would rise, and sin and death would no longer rule us. So his life now counts for our life, just as his death counted for our death. By Jesus' Spirit, we believe and live that life now.**

Apply

How have you seen the Spirit living in you lately? How have you seen the opposite?

Around the Room

Share your highs and lows for the week.

Pray

