

Romans 7:13-25 | "Problem of the False Self"

We were made by God, not just in his image, but to be his image. Fundamentally, that is who we are—the image of God. Of course, we're not. Because we do not trust God, we have denied ourselves and have sought other ways of being human. We have asserted a false-self, often religious, in order to hide from God. This is what must be and is cured in Christ Jesus.

October 22, 2023 // 100 Years Anniversary Service \\

Galatians 2:15-21 | "Death to Self; Life in Christ"

We live in a society that wants to improve things a little bit at a time. We believe that if we just keep going with our good intentions we'll eventually enjoy "the good life." This is how we sometimes approach religion too. If I become a bit more spiritual I'll be pleasing to God. The truth is though, the human being as it now is must die. It is irredeemable. But, if it dies in Christ Jesus, then it will be raised with him and will live its new life to God.

October 29, 2023 // Reformation Sunday \\

Romans 12:1-3 | "Renewal of the Mind"

The new life in Christ begins in the mind. A part of dying to self and living in Christ is to recognize the way that we have been patterned to think within the thought forms of the cultures around us. While there is a lot of good in culture, it participates in the human project of hiding from God. Therefore, we need to engage in an ongoing process of filling our minds with the things of Christ Jesus.

November 5, 2023 // All Saints Sunday \\

Galatians 5:16-26 | "Conflicting Feelings"

"Do what feels right to you," is almost a cultural manifesto. The problem with everyone doing what feels right to themselves is that, in our sin-soaked-selves, we desire that which brings death, not life. This is why we need a new "Christ-self" that operates in a new love. Only this new love will lead us from self-worship to God-centred worship.

November 12, 2023

Philippians 2:12-18 | "A Good Will"

The promise of the new life in Christ and by the Spirit is that we can live the life God desires us to live, now! We have been called to live obediently to the Word and way of God, and we have been enabled to do so. Yet, as we continue to live out our discipleship in our mortal bodies, the obedience of faith requires an act of our will—this too must be redeemed.

November 19, 2023

1 Corinthians 9:24-27 | "Getting Into Shape"

We live out our lives in the body, and redemption is not complete until we receive our new spiritual body in the resurrection. In the meantime, we are called to discipline our bodies in line with the new life. The human body must also be conformed to the image of Christ.