

TOGETHER WITH ONE VOICE: WE CAN WORSHIP THE CREATED OR THE CREATOR

February, 2015 - Pastor Paul Allen

- **Open in prayer.**
- **Introduction**
- **First Value at TC**
- **A High and Lofty View of God**

We are committed, through the Spirit's enabling power, to teach a high and lofty view of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. All our actions, teaching, prayer, mission, and spiritual transformation will be driven by our view of God.

 - o Discuss the above value and why it's important for it to be our first value.
 - o What did Pastor Paul mean when he said, "Who or what we worship affects who we are, what we believe, and what we do?"
- **The Creator expresses Himself through the created.**
- **Read Romans 1:18-20.**
 - o Why does God send His wrath on the ungodly and unrighteous who suppress the truth?
 - o What truths are they suppressing?
 - o Discuss what "common grace" is according to verses 19 and 20.
 - o Give examples of how creation expresses God's eternal power and divine nature.
- **People chose to worship the created.**
- **Read and discuss Romans 1:21-23.**
 - o Why do we say at TC "all of life is worship"?
 - o What happens when someone worships the created instead of the Creator?
- **Read 1 John 2:16.**
- Give examples (both small and large) of how these three sins can be evident in our lives.
 - o Desires of the flesh.
 - o Desires of the eyes.
 - o Pride of life.
- **The Creator allows people to follow their own ways.**
- **Read and discuss Romans 1:24-32.**
 - o How many times did Paul say, "God gave them up"?
 - o What "dishonorable passions" (lusts of their hearts) were people doing?
 - o What are the characteristics of a "debased mind"? Choose and discuss a few of the ones listed.
 - o Discuss the following statements:
 - Our hope is not to make people better, our hope is for people to receive God's forgiveness for their sins through Jesus.
 - Transformation comes from the inside out...it's a heart change. Sometimes His love means letting go of people and letting them experience the results of their choices.
 - o How are we seeing verse 32 lived out in today's culture?
 - o How can today's cultural changes affect the church (gathering of Christ followers)?

- **The Creator is kind, but not soft.**
- **Read and discuss Romans 2:1-5.**
 - o Discuss how living an upward, inward, outward life changes us from being the person in this passage.
- **Soul Tattoo: Marinate on the Creator's overwhelming love this week.**
 - o Practice walking in God's upward, inward, outward love this week. Before every decision, conversation, action...take a moment and walk through His love...are we loving God completely, ourselves correctly, and others compassionately with the thing we're about to do or the words we're about to say.

CALENDAR

Next Steps

Class 1: Who We Are
TC Group Connect
Class 2: How We Live
Class 3: Who You Are

February 15, 6pm @ TC 521
February 17, 6:30pm @ TC 521
March 15, 6pm @ TC 521
April 15, 6pm @ TC 521