

Every church and every person needs to have foundational beliefs that guide and direct life, decisions, direction, and processes. During 'Foundations' The Church at Martinsburg will examine the book of Romans and establish core doctrinal beliefs for life, relationships, and mission. This series more than any we've done before will set the pace and direction for the church.

Growth Questions for 9/25/11 – 10/02/11

1. What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's message did you find most helpful, eye-opening, troubling?
2. What is hope? What do you think it means to abound in hope?
3. What things cause you to lose hope or become depressed?
4. Describe a time in your life when you were filled with hope. Describe a time in your life when you were filled with despair (lack of hope). What was different about the situations?
5. Read Romans 15:8 and Mark 10:45. What do these verses tell us about Jesus? What posture and/or position should you take as a result of these verses? What does that look like in your day-to-day life?
6. Why do you think Paul has made the transition in chapters 12-14 of using people as the example and in chapter 15 using Christ as an example? How does looking at the life of Christ influence your understanding of chapters 12-14? Take time to reread portions of 12-14 and after you're finished look at the passages discuss how Christ is the perfect example of what Paul calls us to in the previous chapters.

Living on Mission***Proclaim...Reach...Connect...Go***

1. Romans 15:7 gives a clear imperative, "Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God." How are you doing with that? Share some of the "one anothers" in your life that you are welcoming and God is being glorified through it.
2. What does the following statement from Romans 15:9 mean, "...in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy"? How is your life demonstrating the mercy of God with the people you encounter?
3. What would The Church at Martinsburg look like if every Christian was living with the abundant hope described in Romans 15:13? Why is that not the case right now? What can we do today to help see that happen?

Important Dates

- 10/05/11 First Wednesday Worship – Holiday Inn, Foxcroft Avenue
- 10/05/11 Baptisms at the Holiday Inn
- 10/28-29/11 Men's Gathering – more info at www.martinsburgchurch.org
- 11/19/11 Operation Thanks!

COMMUNITY GROUPS DEFINED

A Community Group is a home fellowship made up of 10-15 people who meet every week to share, study and support one another. A leader leads each group. An average meeting lasts for an hour and a half, followed by light refreshments. They're the place where the real ministry of the church should take place as we study God's Word, while supporting and sharing our lives with one another.

Community Groups meet on Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday nights in homes throughout Martinsburg. Visit groups.martinsburgchurch.org for more information.