

Life Group Sermon-based Homework
Discussion Questions for Sunday, April 2, 2017
Nat Crawford – “Words of Substitution”

Review

Nat used several important words with spiritual meaning for us in the Sunday message. Can you remember some of them? Do you understand them?

My Story

1. Have you ever been punished for something you didn't do? Explain the experience to your group.
2. Have you ever had to be a substitute for someone else? Describe the emotions.

Digging Deeper

The message on substitution covered some big words that may have been unfamiliar. In this homework, we would like to bring both meaning and understanding of their central importance in our life. Here are four of those words and their use in the Bible.

(NOTE: not all Bible translations use these words. Allow translations that do not use these words to help in your understanding of the concepts.)

1. Substitution

- Matthew 20:28
- 2 Cor. 5:21
- 1 Peter 3:18

Can you come up with a working definition of “substitution” from these 3 passages, and Nat’s message content? (Leaders Notes: Simple definition is: “Christ died in the place of sinners.”)

2. Adoption

- Romans 8:15
- Ephesians 1:5
- 1 John 3:1-2

How do these verses help you understand the term “adoption”? And, can you now come up with your own definition? (Leaders Notes: “Adoption is an act of God whereby he makes us members of His family.”)

3. Atonement

- 1 John 2:2
- John 1:29
- Romans 5:11

Based on your understanding of this term, as a group come up with a working definition of “atonement.” (Leaders Notes: “The Atonement is the work Christ did in

his life and death to earn our salvation.” There are two aspects of Christ’s work: 1. Christ’s obedience for us, and Christ’s sufferings for us.)

4. Propitiation

- Galatians 4:4-5 (emphasis vv. 5a)
- Romans 3:25
- Hebrews 2:17

Can you now as a group define what the word “propitiation” means? (For help see the Leaders Guide on this term: “Propitiation: A sacrifice that bears God’s wrath to the end and in so doing changes God’s wrath toward us into favor.”)

Taking it Home

Take a minute and ask yourself: “Where am I in relation to the Cross of Jesus Christ? What does it mean to you? Do you fully understand?”

Describe your response to the truth of this lesson: is it “indifference,” “silence,” “humility,” or “passionate obedience as a follower and teller of the Good News?”

April 29 Day of Service / Sign up and serve as a Life Group!

To sign up...stop by table in church foyer on Sunday mornings or go to firstfreelincoln.org and click on “Day of Service” link on homepage.