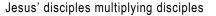
Jesus to send the Spirit, that you are aware of his presence. Enjoy his presence. Invite Jesus to speak to your heart, then listen, grabbing the first thought that comes to your mind.

Grab that thought and mull it over with Jesus. Invite Jesus to that Jesus doesn't be real, not a nice theory, but invite him to send the Spirit that but he's given his life you experience in some way shape or form his reality; the reality of his love, of his forgiveness. of the Spirit's presence with you. Invite Jesus in, open the door. Invite Jesus in because you want more than a theory: you want the real person.

Guess what, that's what Jesus is after. Open the door and

## Christ Church Lutheran

Worship Times - 9.00am & 10.45am Pastor: Tim 0427326553



invite Jesus in. Invite because he's the the Spirit in. Respond most trusted person to the promptings. in your life. thoughts, images, ideas, people's

names or faces that

space to share with

you from his heart.

want to be a nice

theological theory,

so that you might

relationship of love

and affections with

about everything

him; talking with him

Today I'm

Today I invite you to do; not talk about, not come. Share from the read about it, but this heart, and give Jesus week find time to be alone with just you and Jesus. Open the door, invite the Spirit in, expect a wonderfully reminded response, grab that first response. Why wouldn't it be Jesus?

I invite you to live the relationship, Jesus is share a living, vibrant sick of being a theory.

> your life? Your answer would reflect what you believe is essential.

Of course that's what purpose of life, the purpose of your life. Is that an important

The Reformation

for me to stop and

lots of good things

habits picked up,

lots of good things

can be added to the

essential. The good

things become more

important, or more

If I were to ask you

purpose of life? Or

today, what's the

more pointedly.

prominent, than

what's essential.

good traditions

point they over

shadow what's

reflect on what is

I'd say, for the way vou answer it will either mean you live a life of meaning or waste vour life. You may waste your life on good things, but in you were barking up the end if I've missed developed. Over time what life is all about, I've wasted my life.

> Who wants to waste their life?

Today we heard Jesus talking with a bunch of people who believed they were living out the meaning of life; but they were deceived. Honestly, devotedly, passionately, what's the purpose of deceived. They were in danger of wasting their life, not only their life but also the lives of those who followed them.

Jesus is all about, the Who wants to live a wasted life? Today I'm reminded that the stakes are high; it is

my life, it is me that is on the line. I don't want to hear at the end of my life; it was a spectacular waste, it all came to nothing, you did your best but the wrong tree. vou're irrelevant and boring.

Any of those options sound good to you? I know I get the last one thrown at me repeatedly; you're irrelevant and boring.

By the way, I hope you notice that I'm not talking about some nice theology. Good theological statements can also cloud what is essential. We can argue over theology. passionately, believing we're right and it is important, but totally miss what is essential.

27 October 2019

**Reformation Day** 

WHAT S ESSENTIAL

question? Essential, celebration is a time essential. Over time can be added, good

Have you noticed that's the Pharisees of Jesus' day? They spent their time talking about God's word, debating the correct interpretation, they were passionate. committed people; of life stands in front in with their ideas. So lived on this earth. they kill him.

I always find that a bit unsettling. Could I be doing that; passionately debating, wanting to do what's right, but was crucified and miss Jesus, the person. Am I in danger of killing Jesus on the altar of what I consider correct theology?

What's essential? What's the purpose of life, of your life, of vou?

Here are three pointers to what is essential: Christ alone. Faith alone. Word alone.

The trap is getting

three pointers and missing what they point to.

What does 'Christ alone' point you to?

It points me to the very real, living, breathing person but when the purpose Jesus. Jesus, the pre -existent God, who of them, he doesn't fit was born my brother,

Jesus is alive.

rose, who will return to judge the world. Without Jesus at the core, we've totally missed the point.

And it's not some nice theological statement. it is the real, living, breathing person. Jesus. having a real, living breathing relationship with you today.

If Jesus is just a nice theological

missed the point. lost in debating these Jesus is alive. Jesus

has sent the Spirit so that we know him, today: that we live in a dynamic relationship of love and affection. That we have a dynamic conversational relationship, where we share openly and honestly about what's on our hearts. Listening to what's on Jesus' heart, seeking to walk intimately together through life

That's 'Faith alone'. We live out this dynamic relationship of love and trust with Jesus. based on his selfrevelation. I don't tell Jesus what he thinks and what he has to do. I listen as Jesus reveals who he is. Reveals his character: what he loves, what gets him hot under the collar. I let Jesus reveal his true identity to me; and seek to live with him as he has revealed himself.

statement, I've totally That's why 'Word alone' is important. for it is the Word, the Bible, where God reveals himself to use. for who he is. We're not left with quess work, we don't have to make it up ourselves, we have God revealing himself, specifically revealing himself in Jesus.

It is this Jesus who I get to share a living, vibrant. relationship of love and affection with. Daily talking with him about everything, being open to him, listening to him as I seek to walk intimately with him. This is not a theory, but a living, vibrant relationship with a living, vibrant person. have. If Jesus

It is so easy to get into a debate about Jesus, about the bible. about our interpretation of faith. to follow? that we miss the person. That we don't Of course that will actually find ourselves living out that relationship with Jesus.

The Pharisees read the bible daily. They memorised it. They debated what it said. But they didn't live in a dynamic relationship with God. Is this what Jesus They ended up treating him like a theory to be argued

Life is not a theory.

over.

Talk with him today.

Life is not a theory. but a relationship to live.

If Jesus can't speak to me, then what do I doesn't make himself real through the Spirit; are we simply left with a book and some good principles reflection of him. This

lead to us debating which are the most important principles. All of a sudden people disappear, Jesus disappears

and I'm left with theories to defend, to debate, to show I'm right and you're wrong.

gave his life for?

So today I'm reminded of the essential importance of living life with Jesus: as he has made possible. Jesus birth, life, death. resurrection. ascension. sending of the - Spirit, has created the reality of living life with Jesus today.

Jesus, through the Spirit, does want to move your emotions. affect your thinking, inspire you, challenge vou. motivate you, grow vou to be a living is to be a dynamic. living relationship.

So I encourage you to do somethina simple this week: find a quiet place, no phone, no noise, no distraction, and invite