

1. Did you dress up for Halloween? What did you dress up as? Why? Did anything scare you on Halloween? What is the origin of dressing up on Halloween? Why should Christians be discerning about celebrations that have their origin in pagan religions?

2. Do you think church is scary? How does church become scary when it shifts from the hope of the gospel?

3. What is the difference between religion and the gospel? Discuss the following statements:
 - a. Religion – “I obey, therefore, I’m accepted.”
 - b. Gospel – “I’m accepted, therefore, I obey.”Which motivation do you find yourself operating from most often? What is the result?

4. How does the hope of the gospel remove fear?

5. How much did you know about the Protestant Reformation before Sunday? How important is knowledge of church history to building a healthy church today?

6. Martin Luther was tormented with guilt until he was liberated by Romans 1:17. Are you tormented by guilt? Do you beat yourself up over sin? How does this verse drive a nail into the heart of scary religion?

7. Justification is that judicial act of God whereby he pardons the sinner of guilt and grants him with the righteousness of Christ on the sole condition of personal faith demonstrated by a life of good works. How does this doctrine change the way you view salvation?

8. Read Nehemiah 9:1-3. What are the characteristic of a gospel reformation? Do God's people need another reformation? Why? Do you need a reformation? Why? What do you need to do today in response to what we have studied?

9. The first of Luther's 95 Theses was essentially, "*The whole life of believers is to be one of repentance.*" Why is repentance a deterrent to shifting away from the gospel? Is repentance a regular practice for you? Do you need to repent of lawless rebellion? Do you need to repent of lifeless religion?

10. What did you sense as you watched Luther respond courageously at the Diet of Worms? Are you experiencing any situation that requires you to respond courageously like Luther?

11. Suggestion: Obtain a copy of the 2003 movie "Luther" and watch it with your group.