

Week 4: Unsolved Mysteries

Theme: Power of the Sacraments / World Communion

Icebreaker:

Who is your favorite detective? And why?

Message Bible Text:

Mathew 28: 18-19, 1 Corinthians 11: 23-26, Luke 22

Discussion Questions:

- How many sacraments did you think there were?
 Roman Catholic Sacraments: Baptism, Penance/Confession,
 Marriage, Ordination, Eucharist, Confirmation, Anointing of the Sick
 Reformed Sacraments: Baptism, Eucharist/Communion
- 2. Were you surprised that the reformers use only two?
- 3. What do you think people look for when choosing a church?
- 4. What did you look for when choosing this church?

Supplemental Bible Texts:

Luke 24:13-49

Discussion Questions:

- How did the sacrament in this text (Luke 24:13-49) point us to Christ or <u>see</u> Christ?
- What do the sacraments do for us?

Take-Home Thoughts:

- Jesus did it ALL for us and his world/creation.
- Just as we invite friends and family to our Thanksgiving table, at communion Jesus invites all believers to his table.

Prayer Requests (use the extra bullets to place your own requests or your small group's requests):

- Pray for the unity of the body of Christ in the world wide church.
- Pray for those wrestling with suicidal thoughts and depression.
- Pray for a protective hedge from evil around our families/congregation.
- Thank God for the new mercies and grace we receive daily.

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Memory Verse:

Lamentations 3:22-23

Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail.

They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, as the water, bread, and wine come from many fields and many vines, from many rivers and many springs, to the communion table and baptism font, we see that this points to the gathering of your church. You keep inviting us and then you invite us some more, because we will never run out of your grace. Thank you for taking common everyday items and speaking to us through them, that you love us. You show us Lord, that even if no one else does, you'll claim us. We praise you for giving us the sacraments of baptism and communion to remind us that we will be able to spend eternity with you.