## Bold, Part 24: "Farewell" 2 Corinthians 13:11-14

Rev. Andrew Jun

[SERMON MANUSCRIPT]

### <u>Introduction</u>

Today's sermon is titled "Farewell" and it is from 2 Corinthians 13:11-14.

If you're around someone in person, then give that person (or people) a congratulatory high-five or fist-pump. If you're by yourself then send a virtual congratulatory high-five or fist-pump to someone else via the Zoom chat!

The reason for congratulating each other is because today we're finishing the book of 2 Corinthians! We work through books in the Bible section-by-section because we believe that every part of the Bible is God's Word and is profitable for teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training us in the righteousness of God (2 Timothy 3:16). So it took us awhile to finish this book (we did chapters 1-6 way back in 2018 and resumed chapters 7-13 this year), but now we're finishing it!

Since it's been spread out, we might not remember details so well, but today's passage of Scripture is Paul's farewell to the Corinthian church- at least for this letter that he wrote to them. Usually, the conclusions of epistles (epistles are the letters that the apostles wrote in the New Testament) summarize or reiterate the themes brought up throughout the letter.

This is the case for 2 Corinthians, so as I preach Paul's "farewell" here, I'll also be touching on many points that Paul brought up with the Corinthians. It'll be a great review for us, but it will also be a fresh word from the Lord for all of us as well!

## **Scripture Reading**

We'll go ahead and read from God's Word now...

2 Corinthians 13:11-14 (ESV):

11 Finally, brothers, rejoice. Aim for restoration, comfort one another, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you.

12 Greet one another with a holy kiss. 13 All the saints greet you. 14 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Amen!

## **Proposition**

The "one thing" from this passage of Scripture is simply this:

# Let's become a church reflecting the gospel that we receive from the Triune God.

## **Organizational Statement**

We'll be unpacking these several verses and revisiting this "one thing" as we go through today's sermon.

There are two main parts to what Paul wrote: first, there are *five gospel goals for the church* from verse 11 and second, there are *three trinitarian traits grounding the church* from verses 12-14.

We'll go through these give gospel goals and three trinitarian traits and how they connect with us becoming a church reflecting the gospel that we receive from the Triune God.

Transition: Alright let's jump into this! Let's go ahead and first...

#### Sermon Outline

#### I. See verse 11: Five Gospel Goals for the Church.

- A. We see that Paul shared his final exhortations to the Corinthian church, a summary of his whole letter. There were five specific commands that would be how the church functioned together in light of all that they had gone through in the past (and that Paul had instructed them through). These were all actions they were collectively supposed to do in light of their faith in the message of Jesus Christ. Let's look at each of them a little closer.
  - 1. [First, he wrote, "Finally brothers, rejoice," so...] *Goal #1:* The church's first goal to live in the gospel is to rejoice.
    - a) From a normal, human perspective, Paul didn't have a lot of reason to be joyful if he considered his rocky relationship with the Corinthian church. He started the church in Corinth as the Holy Spirit led him to go there and invested a year and a half into building up the new believers there (Acts 18). Later on, the church was embroiled in sexual immorality and then a bunch of other various controversies like factions breaking up the church, disputes between members that got so bad that they took it to court, and corporate gatherings that were unruly and disrespectful to God and each other.
    - b) Not only that, but many in the church started to think that Paul was not a true apostle and turned away from his teaching. They started to believe dangerous things about incorporating pagan practices into their lives, marriage and divorce, using spiritual gifts, and the resurrection at the end of the world. When he visited a second time, trying to straighten things out, it got so bad that he had to leave the city without resolving anything. He wrote them difficult, tearful letters; he sent his colleagues to check on them...and thankfully as the Corinthians had a change of heart, he wrote this in...
      - O 2 Corinthians 7:9 (ESV): 9 As it is, I rejoice, not because you were grieved, but because you were grieved into repenting. For you felt a godly grief, so that you suffered no loss through us.
    - c) Paul had joy because this was the gospel process in the hearts of these Christians. He spoke the truth to them and caused them much grief, but it was "godly grief" that let to repentance, a "change of heart" where they turned away from their sins and turned towards Christ. Paul wanted the Corinthians to also "rejoice" in God's gospel process of keeping them on the right path of following Jesus!
  - 2. [Second, he wrote, "Finally brothers...aim for restoration," so...] *Goal #2:* The church's second goal to live in the gospel is to aim for restoration.
    - a) Remember, these were actions that reflected the gospel: the Corinthians were to pull the string back on their bows and aim their arrows on the target of restoration. This word "restoration" simply means "to be put things into order" or "to make things right." This was not possible merely from human effort or skill; it's only through the gospel at work in God's people by his grace. We saw how this happens last week from 13:1-10: Paul exercised discipline towards the people who still refused to repent after his

corrections. He called them to self-examination, humbly measuring themselves with God's Word and listening to the Holy Spirit's voice inside them. Then he wrote this in...

- 2 Corinthians 13:9 (ESV): 9 For we are glad when we are weak and you are strong. Your restoration is what we pray for.
- b) He was happy to make himself weak in order to get the Corinthians to see their sins (as they examined themselves) and to repent. In doing this, they were truly strong because they were turning to Christ for grace and power. Their repentance would lead to this restoration that Paul had been praying for regarding the church. He told them to take aim at restoration by submitting to God's Word and cooperating with the Holy Spirit in matters of the church like upholding sexual purity with each other; breaking up the factions in the church and being united together; settling disputes graciously on their own; behaving in gatherings where people mutually loved and built up one another. He told them to aim for restoration in their devotion to the apostles' teaching by renouncing pagan practices with theological clarity; fixing broken marriages that now fought to stay together; exercising spiritual gifts that were not focused on "look at me" but "how can I love and serve my brothers and sisters in Christ"; and corporately holding onto the biblical hope of the bodily resurrection. This is the restoration that is possible in Christ!
- c) <u>Context</u>: Church, let me pause here- in light of these two gospel goals of rejoicing and aiming for restoration- and speak to us as a church. Let's appreciate the process we're in and the journey we're on right now. The process is truly hard; the journey is truly hard! We don't have to deny that! But let's also know that there is hope- there is always hope for those moments of rejoicing and experiencing restoration along the process or journey that makes it worth it!
- d) Context: Let me explain what I mean by quoting from J.R.R. Tolkien's *The Lord of the Rings*. This was the latest family viewing project. Watching it again, I was reminded that the brilliance of *The Lord of the Rings* is what makes any story great: the conflicts that the characters confront and overcome lead to resolutions that lead to joy and everything back to being right in the world. It creates greater appreciation for the little things in life, strengthens bonds of friendship, and causes greater courage and sacrifice to emerge from us! It was agonizing for my kids to watch all the hardships and failures of the many great characters of the story, but it was so rewarding when we got to those points of joy and restoration for Frodo, Sam, Merry, and Pippin; Aragorn, Gandalf, Gimli, and Legolas; and all the other good folks of Middle Earth. Here are the wise words of Samwise Gamgee that summarize it:
  - o "It's like in the great stories, Mr. Frodo. The ones that really mattered, full of darkness and danger they were. Sometimes you didn't want to know the end, because how could the end be happy. How could the world go back to the way it was when there's so much bad that had happened? But in the end it's only a passing thing, this shadow. Even darkness must pass." – Samwise Gamgee
- e) Context: There is great truth here that is especially true in light of the gospel we believe in. There is HOPE in the process and journey we're on. There is always hope for us as Christians! There is always hope for us as a church! May we appreciate the process and journey knowing that there is the HOPE of joy and restoration to be experienced in Christ! A tangible way that we pursue joy and restoration as a church is to be committed to each other enough to exercise discipline properly with each other in the church- to give it by speaking the truth in love and to receive it with humble, honest self-examination.
- 3. [Third, he wrote, "Finally brothers...comfort one another," so...] *Goal #3*: The church's third goal to live in the gospel is to comfort one another.

- a) As I said before, this process or journey is *hard* to go through! There is joy and restoration that we can *hope for*, but it's also hard! Therefore, this command to comfort one another is a crucial one. The word translated "comfort" here is the New Testament Greek word, *parakaleo*, which means to encourage or exhort. Paul used this word a lot early on in his letter, like in...
  - O 2 Corinthians 1:5-6 (ESV): 5 For as we share abundantly in Christ's sufferings, so through Christ we share abundantly in comfort too. 6 If we are afflicted, it is for your comfort and salvation; and if we are comforted, it is for your comfort, which you experience when you patiently endure the same sufferings that we suffer.
- b) Paul suffered a lot as a servant of Christ. He shared in Christ's suffering and was greatly afflicted, but also shared in Christ's comfort- he was greatly comforted in those times! And not only this, but now Paul commanded the Corinthians in turn to also comfort one another as they collectively served and suffered for the honor of Christ Jesus. Paul's example showed them the freedom in the gospel to be others-minded in the midst of suffering! Paul was fully expecting that the church would grow up and mature to the point when they would not only receive comfort and encouragement, but that they could give away comfort and encouragement to each other too. They could be a self-ministering church body that sharpened, exhorted, cared for, and built up each other!
- c) Context: Church, we are all in this together! Let's be honest- the reality is that so many of us have dealt with a ton of stuff (especially over the last eighteen months of this pandemic). Of course, we need to personally take charge of ourselves- we are responsible for our actions and hearts. But freedom in the gospel to be others-minded also means receiving comfort and encouragement from others as we deal with our sins, failures, pains, and sufferings. Freedom in the gospel to be others-minded also means giving comfort and encouragement to others who are dealing with their own sins, failures, pains, and sufferings. How can you take steps of being free and mature in the gospel to be others-minded? This doesn't come naturally, but take some practice steps in your LIFE group (among other contexts): How can you receive comfort and encouragement from others? For example, you can say, "I really need help" or "I really appreciate this" to your fellow brothers or sisters in LIFE group. How can you give away comfort and encouragement to others? For example, it can be taking a risk and saying, "I don't know exactly what to say or do to help, but I'll try with this."
- 4. [Fourth, he wrote, "Finally brothers...agree with one another," so...] *Goal #4*: The church's fourth goal to live in the gospel is to agree with one another.
  - a) There were a lot of controversies and relational conflicts in the Corinthian church, weren't there? Thinking back to 12:11-21, Paul defended himself as a genuine apostle of Jesus Christ. His apostleship was proven in the supernatural work of God in saving people in Corinth and starting the church there. Paul taught them the teachings of the Lord Jesus, and yet there was still some who were rejecting his teaching. So he wrote this to them, in...
    - o 2 Corinthians 12:19-20 (ESV): 19 Have you been thinking all along that we have been defending ourselves to you? It is in the sight of God that we have been speaking in Christ, and all for your upbuilding, beloved. 20 For I fear that perhaps when I come I may find you not as I wish, and that you may find me not as you wish—that perhaps there may be quarreling, jealousy, anger, hostility, slander, gossip, conceit, and disorder.
  - b) They rejected his authority and thus his teaching- which led to all this discord and disputing, all this confusion and controversy, all this fleshliness and fighting. In contrast, if they accepted his authority and thus his teaching, there would be joy and restoration and they could comfort each other- and thus they could "agree with one another." Literally, what Paul wrote here in verse 11 is, "Be of the same mind" or "think the same thing." He's not talking about uniformity of thinking but a *unity* of heart and

- mind together as they all converged towards God's Word and the Holy Spirit. As they did this, they would converge towards each other as well.
- c) Context: As an example, I'll share about how our elder team has been working out issues regarding forming a church constitution and statement of faith. We all have our own ideas and preferences, which can cause a lot of disagreement with each other. But what we're doing primarily is investigating what the Scriptures say. We also study what the church has done throughout history and what other churches are doing now. We debate (sometimes pretty intensely) and we also pray and slowly but surely we're coming to agreement- a unity or oneness of mind-regarding our church policies and theological convictions. We've been working on these documents for a few months now and I think it will be ongoing for maybe a year or so. We also want to gradually share it with our church so there is agreement with the entire congregation regarding these beliefs.
- d) <u>Context</u>: This is what we will have to do when it comes to other issues too- which is especially important as there are a lot of controversies about issues like gender identity, sexuality, and race. Nickey and I have been recently working on men's and women's ministry content and we're realizing this is a very deep hole to dive into with a lot of landmines that can cause conflicts between us. But there is hope that when we are aligned to Jesus in his Word and Spirit, then we will also be aligned with each other!
- 5. [Fifth, he wrote, "Finally brothers...live in peace," so...] *Goal #5*: The church's fifth goal to live in the gospel is to live in peace.
  - a) This last command to *live in peace* is related to agreeing with one another and aiming for restoration, isn't it? Peace comes when "all would be made right with them" (which I said is restoration) and when they are "agreeing with one another." In the way beginning of his letter, Paul said that peace comes from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. This is reconciliation- the restoring of good relationship between parties-which Paul wrote about in...
    - O 2 Corinthians 5:18-19 (ESV): 18 All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; 19 that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.
  - b) This is the heart of the "message of reconciliation" that Paul says he was entrusted with: we were all sinners- rebels and enemies of God- but Christ Jesus reconciled us to God through the sacrifice of his life on the cross. He bore the wrath of God on our behalf and all of this is a gift that we receive by trusting in Jesus. Now we can live in peace with God! And also we can live in peace with one another- the restoring work of Christ breaks down all the dividing walls between people! The Corinthians were also entrusted with this ministry as they were to have this gospel goal of "living in peace."
  - c) <u>Context</u>: Taking it further, the concept of "peace" is a key theme from the Scriptures. The Old Testament word for this is *shalom*. Let me read an explanation of *shalom* from Cornelius Plantinga's book "Sin: Not the Way It's Supposed to Be."
    - o "The webbing together of God, humans, and all creation in justice, fulfillment, and delight is what the Hebrew prophets call *shalom*. In English we call it peace, but it means far more than just peace of mind or ceasefire between enemies. In the Bible *shalom* means universal flourishing, wholeness, and delight... *Shalom*, in other words, is the way things are supposed to be." Cornelius Plantinga
  - d) <u>Context</u>: Church, we're entrusted with this ministry of *shalom*: flourishing, wholeness, and delight in God and his holy will for our world. When Paul gives us these "gospel goals" of rejoicing, aiming for restoration, comforting one another, agreeing with one another, and living in peace, *this* vision of God's *shalom* is the bigger picture! We are

claiming the promise of God that in Christ we can flourish and be whole and delight in God in all areas of our lives. I was so blessed to hear from a member who recently shared how what she has been learning in church has helped her in other areas of her life as well. Amen to that! Let's practice these gospel goals as a church so that we can learn how to live it out in the other areas of our lives! In our marriages and families what would this *shalom* of God look like? In our workplaces or campuses what would this *shalom* of God look like? In our communities and city what would this *shalom* of God look like? In our communities and city what would this *shalom* of God look like? Of course, we'll only experience partial *shalom* on this earth; complete and perfect *shalom* will only happen in the new heavens and new earth when Christ returns! But we can still hope and aim for the foreshadowing of this now!

**Transition:** So we talked about the <u>five gospel goals for the church</u> that will help us **become a church reflecting the gospel.** Now we'll focus on the Triune God who gives us this gospel- so let's...

#### II. See verses 12-14: Three Trinitarian Traits Grounding the Church.

- A. Paul shared his farewell statements to the Corinthians, centered on the Triune God. The doctrine of the Trinity- that God is one and three persons: the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit who are all equal and of the same substance (therefore "one")- is not directly mentioned in the Bible but definitely revealed this way in the Scriptures. We'll focus on Paul's "trinitarian" benediction to the church, linking three traits with each person of the Trinity- in which the church could ground themselves as they strived toward the gospel goals we just talked about.
  - 1. [His benediction included "the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ," so...] *Trait #1*: God's first trait for the church to ground themselves in is the grace of Jesus Christ.
    - a) Remember we defined "grace" to have two meanings from the Bible. First, grace is "undeserved favor": God loves people, regenerates hearts, forgives sin, makes righteous, adopts as his children, reconciles with himself, and gives life eternal- this is all God's favor that he shows us that is totally undeserved and totally offered as a gift! Second, grace is "power for living": Christ's power working inside his disciples to enable them to experience change in heart and body, to love and obey Jesus, to love and serve others, and to endure hard stuff as they follow the Lord. This is what I want to focus in on a bit here, as Paul talked about the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ in verse 14.
    - b) Paul shared with the Corinthian church that he *experienced* this grace most powerfully and personally when he struggled with the "thorn in his flesh," something that caused him to feel tremendously weak. He asked Jesus to take it away from him, but Jesus said no! This is how Paul shared it:
      - 2 Corinthians 12:9 (ESV): 9 But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me.
    - c) Just as Paul learned to be content in his weaknesses so that he could experience the power of Christ at work in him, he wanted the Corinthians to be grounded in the grace of Jesus Christ as well. Christ's grace was more than sufficient to empower them to have joy in the midst of sufferings and hardships; to free them so they could comfort and encourage each other despite those sufferings and hardships; to unite them in mind as brothers and sisters in Christ; and to bring about genuine restoration and peace among themselves.
    - d) <u>Context</u>: How do we ground ourselves in the grace of Jesus Christ then? I think one great way is to embrace our weaknesses. Just think about those five gospel goals. For example, we already talked about the need to comfort others in the midst of the tremendous difficulties we're facing in our world now. But we have our own problems, don't we? We have our own fires that we're going through right now, don't we? So to

embrace our weaknesses, we acknowledge it to God (like, "God I feel weak right now-anxious and stressed out because of this situation with my marriage or family") and we share it with people (like, "hey bro- I am feeling anxious and stressed out because of this situation with my marriage and family"). Then you put yourself in position to receive encouragement and comfort from others whom God can use to lift up your spirits and faith. Others get to put into practice this gospel goal and you get to experience the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ as he helps you to resolve the issues (like within your marriage or family).

- 2. [Next, his benediction included "the love of God," so...] *Trait #2*: God's second trait for the church to ground themselves in is <u>the love of the Father</u>.
  - a) Way back in chapter 6, Paul exhorted the Corinthians not to yoke themselves with the idols of their age but instead to choose the "better yoke": relationship with God himself! Paul reminded them of this "New Covenant" here in...
    - O 2 Corinthians 6:16, 18 (ESV): 16 ...as God said, "I will make my dwelling among them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ...18 and I will be a father to you, and you shall be sons and daughters to me, says the Lord Almighty."

God's promise was that he would dwell among them, that he would walk among them, that he would be a loving father to them, and that they would be his sons and daughters! This was God's plan from the beginning of time: they were chosen and loved by God!

- b) In 13:11, Paul wrote that as the Corinthians strove after these five gospel goals for their church, the God of love and peace will be with you. The God of the New Covenant is the God of love! This is a core part of who he is! God spoke through the prophet Jeremiah and said the same thing when he spoke of this New Covenant. God said, I have loved you with an everlasting love (Jeremiah 31:3). And the God of love is unconditional in his love, embracing dirty, filthy sinners; he is sacrificial in his love, giving his one and only Son to die on the cross to redeem his people; he is everlasting in his love- it will never, ever run out for us and it will last forever into eternity!
- c) Context: The God of love loves us! He loves you and me! Therefore, the love of God gives us incredible *security* in our lives on earth. John Piper wrote this about the love of God towards us: "Love is not a delight in what a person is, but a deeply felt commitment to helping him be what he ought to be." So while we (the church) stumble and bumble around, we can be 100% secure in his commitment to us- despite our mistakes, weaknesses, shortcomings, and sins. This makes us grounded because as we strive for these gospel goals- rejoicing, aiming for restoration, comforting one another, agreeing with one another, and living in peace- we have the security and confidence that the God of love is with us. Imagine us learning how to ice skate- which none of us are good at because we live in Indonesia and have rarely ice skated before! God's love is like our father holding our hands tightly as we learn how to ice skate. We will flop around and fall all over ourselves, but he'll always be there to grip our hands and to pick us up off the ice.
- d) Context: How do we ground ourselves in the love of God then? We simply receive it; we simply open our hands and trust the promises of God when he says he loves us with an everlasting love; we simply let him, through his Word, remind us that he loves us and will never leave us or forsake us. And mostly, we simply look at the cross to see how much he loves us- this beautiful, bloody life that was sacrificed for us. For our friends who have never known this truth or who have forgotten this truth- God loves you! Receive the gift of his love and the salvation that is yours by putting your trust in him!
- 3. [Finally, his benediction included "the fellowship of the Holy Spirit," so...] *Trait #3*: God's third trait for the church to ground themselves in is the fellowship of the Holy Spirit.

- a) The Holy Spirit is often not mentioned by folks in the church (or not talked about correctly), so it's significant that Paul's benediction includes this and that this letter teaches about him in many places (like in 1:21-22, 3:3-6, 3:17-18, and 5:4-5). Just a note that the Holy Spirit is not an "it" but the third person of the Trinity, eternally existing with the Father and Son and perfectly one with and of the same substance as the Father and Son. He has the special role of executing the will of God now in the New Covenant age to regenerate the hearts of God's people and to live within them as a guarantee of their salvation. Let's look at one of those passages I just mentioned- how about this one...
  - O 2 Corinthians 3:17-18 (ESV): 17 Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. 18 And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.
- b) The Holy Spirit gives life to God's people- the Corinthians were "living letters" written by him, confirming that they were now part of this New Covenant that God would save people from all people groups of the world by his grace. Then Paul wrote that the Corinthians were free to be in God's holy presence without any "veils" over their hearts or faces. This means that Christians can have complete access to the glorious presence of the Lord at any time, in any place, and for any situation. Christians can have a real, intimate, personal relationship with God through the Holy Spirit who dwells in them! And Paul said that in this fellowship with the Holy Spirit, he would transform them step by step, from one degree of glory to another.
- c) Context: So, if Jesus Christ's grace gives us power and God's love gives us security, then the Holy Spirit's fellowship gives us intimacy, constant communion with God, and the guarantee of transformation in our lives! The gospel goals are how we ought to relate to one another, but the trinitarian traits are how God relates with us- and these are like the gravitational forces that firmly ground us. We can know and worship and commune with God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit! We're not alone at all in this process and journey of life- the Triune God is with us all the way! Just let that soak into our souls for a little bit right now!
- d) Context: How do we ground ourselves in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit then? Exercise this fellowship by spending time with him through the Word, prayer, and worship. Do this personally in your everyday life. It's hard in the beginning to make this a part of your day-to-day, but I can testify that after years and years of committing to it (and failing many times) it's becoming more and more second nature. I am compelled to get into God's Word and let him speak to me; I am compelled to pray and commune with God; I am compelled to sing praises and give thanks from my lips. Relationships take a day at a time but can become second nature and treasured after years of investing into it!

*Transition*: HMCC, *let's become a church reflecting the gospel that we receive from the Triune God!* Let's conclude today's sermon with the... next steps we can take in light of this main message.

## **Conclusion**

## **III. Life Application**

A. These are the next steps we can take in light of this Scripture. Let's work backwards here-reviewing the three trinitarian traits impacting the church and then the five gospel goals for the church.

- 1. First, ground yourself in relationship with the wonderful, amazing, eternal Triune God: experience his grace in your weakness, receive and trust his love, and exercise fellowship with him.
  - a) We can always get deeper in knowing God- we won't ever run out of discovering fresh things about God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Make it a lifelong endeavor to explore and learn about his grace and love! Maybe there are some here who sense God calling to start this journey- get started by studying with someone in the church or by joining a LIFE group.
- 2. Second, be committed to and follow through in practicing these gospel goals as a church by engaging in life together and sticking with it over the test of time.
  - a) Think about these gospel goals: rejoicing, aiming for restoration, comforting one another, agreeing with one another, and living in peace. Can you pray for God to help your LIFE groups experience these things? And don't forget to stick around through the problems that arise, so that you can also see how the gospel can be at work!

**Transition:** Let's take a few moments to collect our thoughts and pray on our own at this time, before we go into breakout rooms. *Personal prayer for 2-3 minutes.* 

We'll go to breakout rooms for a time to share and pray together. We're trying to do this more these days, as a chance to *become a church reflecting the gospel that we receive from the Triune God!* To give you an idea of what to share, you can share things like:

- 1. What are your "takeaways" from today's sermon?
- 2. Do you have any questions or comments from today's sermon that you can discuss?
- 3. Catch up and share prayer requests in light of the sermon.

We'll send these questions out on the Zoom chat, so you can have it for your reference in your breakout room. If you totally feel weird about participating, then just say so in your group and just listen to others share. We'll get back together after 10 minutes to close out our Sunday Celebration today.

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