



MAIN IDEA: Genuine faith in Jesus Christ will create in us
(1) an all-encompassing desire for the glory of God and
(2) an eagerness to sacrifice for the glory of God.

- **What is the Gospel? Does it include a guarantee of worldly prosperity, health, safety, and comfort?** *Seth said that "It seems that we believe that becoming a follower of Jesus Christ entitles you to comfort and prosperity while on this earth. That by placing our faith in Jesus Christ, we now have a personal life coach and personal defender who is going to ensure our worldly prosperity, our health, and our happiness. It seems that we have come to believe that salvation from the wrath of the one true, holy God is not good enough, and we expect to also be saved from every inconvenience, threat, and pain of this fallen world." Has that idea made its way into Gateway?*
- **What is it about the Gospel that requires a response from us? What is the response?**
- **Do you think that issues of crime, violence, and education are areas that the Church of Montgomery should be concerned about?** *Seth suggested that we should be using our resources (money, gifts, skills, mental energy) not to separate ourselves from those issues, but to run to those issues and minister the Gospel. Do you agree? Why or why not? Why is it so hard to live that way?*
- **Read John 15:18-20. Does the world hate you because you are following Jesus Christ? Have you ever been persecuted for your faith? If not, why do you think that is?**
- **Are you intentionally and sacrificially seeking the glory of God or are you using God as a means to obtain your own comfort and security?** *Based on 2 Corinthians 4:5-12, 16-18 and 1 Corinthians 9:19-27, Seth showed that "the grace of God did not purchase you a long stay at a bed & breakfast to luxuriously live out the days of your life and then ease into heaven. Instead, the grace of God purchased you by the blood of Jesus Christ and entered you into a race that you are to run to win. We must live with great intentionality in order to live a life for the glory of Jesus Christ."*
- **Read 2 Corinthians 4:17-18. Do you regularly think about and focus on the eternal rewards of heaven?**

- **Read Acts 17:26. Did you seek God's wisdom in deciding where you currently live?
Are you living intentionally in your neighborhood to minister the Gospel to your neighbors?
What are some of the obstacles that keep us from living this way? If fear, fear of what?**
- **Do you think God calls people to put themselves and their families in harm's way?
How do you reconcile the goodness of God with the fact that he calls us to suffering on this earth?**