

# **Growth Group Questions**

*Reformation ~ October 27, 2024*

## **Introduction**

A good celebration of the Lutheran Reformation will focus less on Luther and history and more on the Gospel message of Christ. Discuss why the word “alone” is so important to each of the three original “watchword” phrases of the Reformation, and the two extras that have often been added in recent years.

- 1) Saved by Grace Alone
- 2) Through Faith Alone
- 3) On Scripture Alone
- 4) In Christ Alone
- 5) To God’s Glory Alone

## **Into the Word** – Daniel 3:16-28

1. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego stood before arguably the most powerful man on earth and defied his authority. Discuss what must have been going through their minds as they spoke to Nebuchadnezzar.
2. The question of obedience to God-ordained governments is answered most clearly in Romans 13. Why do we obey the laws of government? When only do we disobey?
3. In this event, God delivered the three men physically and miraculously? What other ways does God deliver people?
4. The men’s faithfulness wasn’t just good for them, but for the king also. How can our lives be a witness to Jesus as well as our words?

## **Into the Word** – Revelation 14:6-7

5. Why do you suppose this part of Scripture was chosen for Luther’s funeral sermon? What would it take for it to be used at yours?
6. Why do some people insist on saying that people “become angels” when they die? How can you, with compassion, explain what Scripture actually says?
7. Agree/Disagree – The Bible is more accessible now to more people than at any time in human history.

## **Into the Word** – Mark 13:5-11

8. Jesus gave us signs to watch for that we would recognize the nearness of his coming. Those signs are all seen now. Many Christians become engrossed by looking for signs. Explain why a proper focus now turns away from those signs and instead toward our hearts.
9. In what ways are the difficulties of this world like birth pains, as Jesus says in verse 8?
10. The Gospel is today preached to all nations. The truth of Christ is proclaimed to rulers around the earth. Knowing that Christ is near, explain the peace & confidence you have in verse 11.

## **Closing Prayer**

Lord, come quickly to spare this world from sin and bring your people to our heavenly home. Fill our hearts and lips with your eternal gospel, that we might proclaim your grace to every soul. Amen.