

CERTAIN – SOLUS CHRISTUS

ABOUT THIS WEEK

In our series *Certain* we'll look at how the certain truths of the historical Reformation give us a certain hope in uncertain of times. Each week will focus on one of the five solas of the Reformation: Sola Scriptura, Sola Gratia, Sola Fide, Solus Christus, and Soli Deo Gloria. As we do, we'll show how each concept doesn't just have the power to reform the Church but to also reform our lives!

ITEMS NEEDED

Bibles Pens

CHECKLIST BEFORE YOUR GROUP ARRIVES

Pray for your group Read through the Discussion Guide Refreshments (optional)
 Clean meeting area Clean bathroom Crack front door

OPENING (10-12 MIN)

After a general welcome, ask: Let's get our discussion started today with an icebreaker—an no calculators allowed for this question!

WHAT IS 24 X 9? HOW DID YOU GET THAT NUMBER?

WHAT GRADES DID YOU GET IN MATH IN HIGH SCHOOL?

After a brief discussion, say: Whether or not you're good at math, today in our *Certain* series we're going to look at a truth of the historical Reformation that's easy to understand but hard to live out: solus Christus, Christ alone. Or, in math terms, Jesus plus nothing equals everything.

Before we get started, will you please pray with me?

OPENING PRAYER (1 MIN)

Host, lead the group in prayer.

SOLUS CHRISTUS (7-10 MIN)

After the prayer say: In week 1 we looked at how we are saved by faith alone, this week we see how it's not faith in faith that saves us, it's faith in Christ Alone, Solus Christus. It's a topic we see all over the New Testament from several writers.

I'LL GIVE OUT A FEW VERSES TO READ ALOUD THAT WE DIDN'T HAVE TIME TO GET TO ON SUNDAY, AND THEN WE'LL ASK A FOLLOW UP QUESTION:

ACTS 16:31

PHILIPPIANS 3:9

JOHN 3:36

ROMANS 3:22-23

WHAT DO YOU LEARN ABOUT "FAITH ALONE" IN THESE VERSES?

WHAT DO YOU LEARN ABOUT “CHRIST ALONE” IN THESE VERSES?**ANY OTHER OBSERVATIONS?****PLUS SOMETHING (7-10 MIN)**

After the prayer say: The concept of Solus Christus leads us to an equation of sorts: Jesus plus nothing equals everything. But it's hard to accept that we can do nothing, we want so much to be able to control our standing with God. There are two ways we tend to do this. First, with thinking that we earn or keep God's favor by what we do, rather than Christ alone.

WHICH FAITH “PLUS SOMETHING” DO YOU THINK IS A COMMON TEMPTATION FOR PEOPLE TO THINK IT EARNS (OR KEEPS) GOD’S FAVOR AND WHY:**JESUS + GOING TO CHURCH JESUS + BIBLE READING JESUS + GOOD DEEDS**

After a discussion, say: Obviously, going to church or reading the Bible or good deeds are important things, but it's important to remember they can't earn any more of God's favor. Christ alone already did that completely for us with his life and death!

We can also miss Solus Christus in other areas of our life, too.

WHICH LIFE “PLUS SOMETHING” DO YOU THINK IS A COMMON TEMPTATION FOR PEOPLE TO PLACE TOO MUCH IMPORTANCE UPON AND WHY:**JESUS + MY CAREER JESUS + MY KIDS JESUS + MY FINANCES**

After a discussion, say: Once again, it's not that our career or kids or finances aren't important things, but that they aren't the most important part of our identity. Our life is found in Christ as we hear in the Apostle Paul's letter to the Galatians—

CAN SOMEONE READ GALATIANS 2:20 ALOUD FOR US?**AS A CLOSING QUESTION ON THIS TOPIC OF CHRIST ALONE, HOW IS IT CHALLENGING FOR YOU AND HOW DOES IT GIVE YOU HOPE?****CLOSING PRAYER (5 – 7 MIN)**

After a discussion, say: May God continue to know the truth of Solus Christus for certain so it can reform your life.

AS WE CLOSE TODAY, DOES ANYONE HAVE ANY PRAYER REQUESTS?

Host, after taking prayer requests, close out the group in prayer.