**2 Corinthians 4:4 and Colossians 2:13-15**

I. The current situation in Asia and the great need

A. 83% of the 4.4 billion non-Christians live in Asia

B. Over 87% of the un-evangelized live in Asia

C. 44 of the 55 countries in the world with less than 10% Christians live in Asia

D. Buddhism and Hinduism leave people constantly trying to atone for their own sins vs. the gospel of God’s grace in Christ

E. Millions of people are headed towards a Christ-less eternity (see Acts 4:12), so there is so much work to be done.

F. A work of art depicts a cross with these words on either side of the cross: “This I have done for you . . . what will you do for me?”

II. The spiritual battle taking place

A. 2 Corinthias 4:4: “The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.”

B. Spiritual warfare is an ongoing reality in the world. Power encounters are taking place every day.

II. Our victory in Christ (Colossians 2:13-15)

 A. God canceled the written code that stood against us and nailed it to the cross.

1. In the 1st century, when someone was convicted of an offense, the offense was written down and put on their cell so that everyone would know the crime

2. God took the written code of our offenses and nailed it to the cross and abolished it.

 3. = the forgiveness of sins

 B. He disarmed the powers and authorities

1. Jesus doesn’t just bring forgiveness. He breaks the power of darkness and empowers us so that we can achieve victory over darkness

 2. Story of Adrian beating up the class bully

 C. We need to live out our victory in Christ and invite others into that victory

III. The power of prayer

 A. Prayer is striking the winning blow and evangelism is the harvest.

B. A prayer challenge: wake up every morning at 5am and pray for the nation, the church, and those close to you. Be willing to pay the price . . . in prayer.

**Discussion Questions**

1. As you consider Sunday’s message, what stands out as most helpful, interesting, or important?

2. Consider Pastor Adrian’s strong call to the church to reach the spiritually lost with the gospel. Were you convicted by this message, and if so what are some tangible ways you can respond to that message in the coming months?

3. Consider this quote from C.S. Lewis offered during Sunday’s message: “There are two equal and opposite errors into which our race can fall about the devils. One is to disbelieve in their existence. The other is to believe, and to feel an excessive and unhealthy interest in them. They themselves are equally pleased by both errors and hail a materialist or a magician with the same delight.” Do you agree with this idea? If so, which error do you tend to fall into? What might it look like practically to live each day with a proper acknowledgment/balance of the spiritual battle we are in?

4. Pastor Adrian discussed how at the cross God “disarmed the powers and authorities of darkness,” and he encouraged us to embrace the victory we have in Christ and live empowered lives. How does the idea of living an empowered life in the victory of Christ square with your own theology and your own experience of life?

5. Consider Pastor Adrian’s call to daily morning prayer for the nation. What role does prayer currently play in your life, and what goals/hopes do you have for your prayer life at this time?