06.17.18 - Creed - Christian Lindbeck

Leader Prep Section

- Prepare by reading through the questions and scripture passage so that you can select a few questions that are best suited to your group.
- Try to work through at least one question from each of the sections Hook, Book, Look, Took in order to move from observation to application.
- When possible spend time in prayer for each member of your group.

Goal: Declaring faith out loud with our voices and lives is an important part of experiencing God's forgiveness and salvation.

Hook - Ice breaker type questions to help make the transition into the study time.

- What are some things that stood out to you from Sunday's sermon?
- Have you ever had a difficult time admitting you were a Christian or standing up for something you believe in? What happened? Why was it difficult?
- Have you ever faced a challenging situation and needed a reminder that God is in charge? When you remembered his kindness and faithfulness, did it help you persevere?

Background / Reading

Read: Romans 10:9-10

• Does anyone have any questions about this passage? Or observations that stand out to you immediately? (Remind those who share that we'll likely return to their ideas in our discussion!)

Book - These questions are designed to get you into the text itself.

- What does Paul mean when he talks about declaring or professing faith? (Literally saying the words vs. an overflow of the heart)
- What does it mean to declare / believe that "Jesus is Lord"? Is this any different from confessing Jesus as savior? How?
- How are a verbal profession of faith and a true belief in the heart related? (confession as evidence of a true, saving faith)

Look - These questions will take you on a deeper look at what the passage means for us today.

- Why do you think it's so important that we not only believe in our hearts, but also confess our faith out loud?
- How do you think a verbal profession can boost our faith? Have you experience this in your own life?

Took - These questions are focused on applying the big idea from the text to our lives.

- How would you encourage a young Christian (or perhaps someone from another culture / country) to declare their faith out loud, after they have believed in their heart?
- What are some ways you have "declared with your mouth" and your life that Jesus is Lord? (tell us some fun stories of radical obedience!)
- Sometimes we need to confess our faith before others. Other times, especially during
 challenging circumstances, we need to profess to our own heart that Jesus is Lord. Is there an
 area of your life where you feel like you need a reminder that Jesus is Lord? Consider praying
 for these things together.