

Luther's Legacy for Laity
Disc 2: Dr. David Lose
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This study guide will follow the 8 parts of Dr. Lose's DVD. Each part will include a brief summary, a list of Biblical passages (if any were referenced) and questions for discussion. Key glossary terms will be listed at the end of each section.

Part 4: Freedom From and Freedom For

Summary:

Dr. Lose begins part 4 with a one-minute summary of parts 1-3. You might find this helpful to review prior to viewing the rest of part 4.

Dr. Lose describes the Gospel as freedom from: climbing the ladder, saving ourselves, voices that accuse us and sin. It is also freedom for: life in this world, abundant living, service to neighbor and God's world.

The law is a gift, and always has been. God saved God's people and established the covenant (Exodus 19) and then gave them the law since they were God's people to help them get the very most out of life together. Thus the law is chiefly about responsibility to each other and to the world. God wants us to enjoy this world and life together.

All of Luther's theology hangs on the understanding that the Law is primarily about responsibility and the Gospel is primarily about identity. It tells us who we are by telling us whose we are. We receive a new name in baptism – Christian/Child of God, which defines who/whose we are. No matter what else happens, we can't lose this identity or have it taken away from us.

Biblical References:

Exodus 19 – 20
Romans 8:22

Confessional References:

(none)

Questions for Discussion:

1. What does Dr. Lose mean when he says that the Law shows us what God wants for us and from us?
2. How do you experience law in your life?
3. How is the law "Life's Little Instruction Book?"
4. The parental heart of God is revealed in the giving of the law. The law says these are all my children, so you can't do anything you want to them/ or my world. Dr. Lose used a story about a nine-year old boy to demonstrate what he meant. Do you have any stories from your own life that reflect this idea?

Glossary:

Freedom From & Freedom For – If God, through the death and resurrection of Jesus, has taken away the ladder and come down to us – eliminating the need to worry about the horizontal relationship (God and us) – then we are freed to spend ourselves in the horizontal world/relationships.

God's Two Kingdoms – Luther's way of understanding Law and Gospel in relation to our social lives. (Parts 5 & 6 develop this idea more fully.)