

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 8: Vocation Part 2

Summary:

If we are going to be God's hands and feet in this world, then sin and failure and compromise are inevitable. Being a Christian is not about living a sinless life; rather it is the promise that we can throw ourselves into life confident that our sins will be forgiven. Christians are called to just do it; to make our reverent best guesses.

We live in an ambiguous world, where the choices we have to make are rarely clear. The only absolute is found in the absolution pronounced on Sunday morning. The purpose of worship is to offer us an encounter with the risen Christ. Dr. Lose spent significant time working through Luke 24 to help us understand how important worship is for our vocation. Christian worship meets us on the journey of life, interprets the Scriptures which point to Christ, shares the meal of Christ and then sends us back into the dangerous world for another week to tell of God's mercy and grace through word and deed. Sunday is designed to serve the rest of the week.

Praise worship misses two important aspects. First, worship is not about what we are doing for or offering to God, but rather what God is doing for and offering to us! Second, worship confirms our identity as God's forgiven and called children and sends us back into God's world to serve it, knowing we will usually fail or at best compromise.

The church needs to be implanted into the world, to stand for God in God's broken world.

Biblical References:

Luke 24:13-35

Luke 1:1-4

Mark 2:27

Confessional References:

Luther's Works, Volume 48, pages 281-282

Questions for Discussion:

1. Where does Christ meet you?
2. What is the primary purpose of worship?
3. React to Dr. Lose statement "The church is the respiratory system of the body of Christ."

4. Sometimes a compromise is the best you can do, knowing it is not all that God wants. What role can your congregation play when you face this dilemma in your family/work/life?
5. "I come to church on Sunday to praise God in word and song." Is this enough for Lutheran worship?