Series: The Way of the Cross Message: The Cross and Freedom Scriptures: Galatians 5:10-13; Galatians 6:14-16 Date: Feb. 10 & 11, 2018

-[LET'S START]-

We have been challenged to pray, serve and share with those on our "Adopt 7" list. February 14 is Ash Wednesday and the start of the season of Lent. Wooddale's Ash Wednesday service is at Noon on the Eden Prairie campus. Could this be an opportunity for you to invite someone on your list to attend with you? Pray in groups of two or three for the people on your "Adopt 7" list. Ask the Holy Spirit to show you who to invite to the Ash Wednesday service or an upcoming weekend service.

-[LET'S TALK]-

- 1. Have someone read Galatians 5:10-13 and 6:14-16 aloud. Pastor Dale called attention to "You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be **free**." What is the world's definition of freedom? Explain what Pastor Dale meant by saying, "freedom doesn't come from what you do but what's been done for you!"
- 2. Why is the cross offensive to many of those who consider themselves intellectuals? What do many of the intellectuals see as the source of the solution to the world's problems?
- 3. Connect with your earlier partner(s) and discuss how the cross seems to offend our common sense. According to Pastor Dale, what is this perspective not seeing?
- 4. How does the cross serve to remind us that Christianity is not exclusive but is inclusive?

-[LET'S ACT]-

Galatians 6:14, "May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world." Rejoice together in what Jesus has done for you. Look to the cross for healing, forgiveness and freedom.

-[SERMON REVIEW]-

- Freedom is an obstacle to itself.
- Freedom does not come from what you do but from what has been done for you.
- The cross reveals that humanity's problem is its wicked heart, not its political, economic or social ideas! Unless our wicked hearts are changed, even the best ideas or philosophies will fail because of the sinful hearts behind them.
- The cross reveals to us that no matter how bad or good we think we are, God sees how corrupt our hearts really are.
- Although the cross appeared to be Satan's victory, it was really his defeat.

—[NOTES]—		