## the Go Deep "Maybe it Doesn't Mean What I Think It Means" Helloween 10.28.18

What were you taught about hell?

How have you understood it in the past?

What most scares you about this topic?

Were you ever worried that someone you knew or loved was in hell?

Have your concepts of hell changed?

There are three major words used in the Bible to describe what some define as "hell." *Sheol - Read Genesis 37:5* It means the "place of the dead" All of the dead. *Hades - Read Matthew 16:18* It is the Greek translation of *sheol*. *Gehenna - The Valley of Hinnom - Read Matthew 5:22*. Gehenna was the city dump in Jesus' day. In Old Testament times, it was the place of child sacrifices.

What do you think is significant about the differences in these words?

The teaching mentioned three different views of hell:

Eternal Conscious Torment. Burn forever. (Matthew 25:41, 46; Mark 9:42-48)
Annihilation. You go to hell, but you don't live forever there. Your soul actually dies. (John 3:16; Hebrews 10:39)
Universalism. Yes, there is a hell, but the fires (metaphorica) are for purifying instead of punishing. (Romans 5:18, Ephesians 1:10)

What does it mean to our understanding that there are three different, biblically-based views of hell?

Which view best describes your understanding and view of hell?

Sunday's teaching was that hell is real, both in this life and in the life after death.

What do you think it means for there to be hell on earth today?

Have you ever witnessed something you would describe as hell?

Jesus told us that the kingdom of heaven is here (at hand, near, in our midst, in us). What can we do to bring the kingdom of heaven instead of the kingdom of hell?