

LIFE

John 10:10

A Story Of Disappointment

"dis-appoint"

1. Relationship

...I came that they may have life and have it abundantly."

John 10:10

2. Why We Lose Out

"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy..."

John 10:10

a. Steal

b. Kill

c. Destroy

3. What God Intended



Understanding Life

"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly." John 10:10

Three Questions:

Question #1 - What is _____?

We had it.....Genesis 1:26

Then we lost itRomans 5:12

But God wanted us to have it again..... John 3:17

Saved – sōzō – to restore, to make whole

Examples, Not Exceptions

Question #2 - Why do I _____ with this _____?

The opposing force:

Thief

How he does it:

Steal

Kill

Destroy

Question #3: How does "life" _____ me?

- I move away from rituals and towards a relationship

- I can have a relationship with God that is real, alive and NOW!

For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. - Romans 8:38-39



The Emmaus Road

...and he opened to us the Scriptures (Luke 24:32)

I come that you may have life... Jesus came to restore our relationship with the Father, Papa. That may seem a little weird talking about God that way, but that is the kind of intimate relationship God desires with us. To be transparent with you, I've wrestled with this for most of my life. God wants a real, daily, talk-to-me relationship. I always thought that was something reserved for the spiritual elite like Billy Graham. Jesus came for all of us to have this, not just some of us. This week we will explore what that relationship looks like and then next week we will talk about how to get that relationship going.

Monday: We had it

Read Genesis 1:26-28; 2:7

In this passage we read what it was like before man sinned. Our relationship with God was complete. Notice the word "life" in verse 7? The word means immortality (think soul/spiritual connection). God created mankind with a spiritual connection to Him that would never end! If you could describe your ideal relationship with God, what would it look like? Write it down, don't leave anything out!

Tuesday: We blew it

Read Genesis 3:8-11; Psalm 139

How did we fall so far? This passage can very easily describe our relationship with God. We sin and then we hide in fear waiting for God to come and smite us! What kind of relationship is that? Isn't it amazing that even in that passage, when God already knew what they had done, He was still looking for them? Sin must be confessed and dealt with, but remember that God is always looking for us.

Wednesday: Jesus gives it back

Read 1 Peter 3:18; John 6:35; 11:25-26; 14:6

Jesus came to give us life. He is the only One who can restore our relationship to the Father. Relationship, not religion. Have you ever asked for this relationship from God? Read verse 6 again. Do you believe this?

Thursday: Satan deceives us

Read John 10:10; 1 Peter 5:7-9

Have you ever seen the kid at the beach that is always destroying everyone's sand castle? He can't make one of his own so he wants to make sure you don't have one either. Satan is like that. His fate is sealed and he knows it, but he doesn't want you or me to believe that we can have something that he can't. What lies has he told you about Papa that you still believe? Do you think it's time to give them to God where they belong?

Friday: It changes me

Read Romans 8:38-39

Read the first part of verse 38 again; this time out loud. Say it again, out loud, with a little more conviction. Are you really convinced? We have lived with this lie for so long; that God is someone more to be feared than loved. Remember where that comes from... the enemy! You and I can daily have a relationship with God and it starts with faith. Jesus came to give us life! Take some time today and thank Jesus for that.

Wait, there's more! This Sunday we are going to explore the second part of this statement... *life abundantly*.