

Sunday, September 26, 2021 - "Relationship Matters - Week 3 - The One Thing" - Doug Kempton

Key Passages: Philippians 2:1-11, James 4, 1 Peter 5

- Feel free to read the passage(s) out loud as a group
- Allow the group to share freely about what stood out to them from the passage or from Sunday's message

Main Ideas

- Are you a slave to Christ or slave to self?
- Philippians is full of "just do it" advice (full of practical and theology)
  - Are we going to do what it says?
  - Sometimes we need to sit with a principle or practical a little bit longer
- Philippians 2:1-11 → The ONE THING we are required to do
- We are a MOSAIC striving to LIVE LIKE JESUS
  - We can't be completely like Jesus
  - But we are challenged to think, act, live and love more and more like Jesus
- v5: Command + encouragement
  - We have everything we need for life and godliness
  - We are called to follow the path of Jesus which is the path of humility
- The path of humility (downward mobility)
  - v6: Jesus doesn't consider being equal with God as his "spoil" (even though it was rightfully his)
  - He intentionally traded forms, willfully gave himself up, limited himself in time/space
  - He came as a humble human even on the spectrum of human honor/acclaim
  - Humbled himself even unto death (beaten, mocked, mistreated)
    - Ultimate display of sacrifice
    - To redeem the world he full emptied himself
- This is a model for us to follow
  - This is the ONE THING
  - To climb down from our own thrones or pedestals and live among one another
- How do we do this?
  - v3: Nothing out of selfish ambition
  - Look to interest of others, let go of what is rightfully ours, being excited about being poured out for others
- v4: Not only our own interest but interest of others
  - Not only our point of view BUT CONSIDER the point of view of others
  - We are called to suspend judgment (the crippling effects of a closed mind)
- We are called to suspend our belief
  - Enter into conversations
  - Humble ourselves and listen
- No one has descended further than Jesus, no one has been exalted higher
- James 4, 1 Peter 5
  - Humble ourselves → HE will exalt us
  - PROPER TIME he will do it
  - Our enemy wants to devour us by having us turn on one another

Questions (Feel free to use all of these, some of these, or none of these)

1. What does it mean to you to be a slave to Christ? How is God calling you to grow in this?
2. Why is it challenging for you to humble yourself? What have you learned about humility?
3. What are the things that are rightfully yours that are hard to give up for others?
4. How is God asking you to consider the point of view of others?
5. What are some conversations with others that God is inviting you into or that he might invite you into in the future?
6. What is God inviting you into as a result of this passage or sermon?

**\*\*15 Minutes with God Reading Plan-**

**Mon: Acts 16 Tues: Acts 17 Wed: Acts 18 Thurs: Acts 19 Fri: Acts 20**

**Songs from the weekend: [Great Jehovah - Travis Greene] - [Living Hope - Phil Wickham] - [King of My Heart - John Mark McMillan] - [Promises - Maverick City Music]**