

What Are You Seeking?
April 11, 2010
John 1:35-42
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Synopsis:

We begin a new series of sermons today with one goal in mind, that our lives would change. How is that going to happen?

1. THINKING: Changing our mind (Rom 12)
2. TRAINING: Following Jesus (Follow me)
3. OTHERS: Body of Christ (Brothers and sisters accountable)
4. HOLY SPIRIT: God does the work

Here's the bottom line: I would hope that each of you would gather with a few people and go through the book *Good and Beautiful God* from now until August. We will be using Bible texts from the book to focus us as we preach:

Bible teaching
Book to help
Others to go along

Today we begin the process of discipleship: A disciple is one who in the course of life seeks Jesus, stays with, and follows him.

I.

What Are You Looking For?

John 1:38

First words out of Jesus' mouth in John

-very important
-John's Gospel flow: poem, John Baptist 3x
-now Jesus speaks:
READ John 1:38

*Basic question for humans!

What do we seek?

What do we want?

What are we looking for?

(U2 Song "I still haven't found what I'm looking for")

What do you want to happen in your life?

Notice Jesus and 2 Disciples:

1. Question: What are you *looking* for?
 2. Answer: Where are you *staying*?
- Funny answer

*We are looking for something permanent = stay with God (3x)

- Age 56, what do I want?
- Something permanent
- Make a difference that lasts, stays
- *How do we find this?

II.

It Happens in the Course of Life

John 1:35 John again was standing with two of his disciples

3 Scenes: Just another day standing there: Look at John 1:35-36

- John Baptist with two disciples (2x “Lamb of God”)
- we expect the dramatic
- life happens in the ordinary
- we’ll wait for the dramatic, but life happens now
- “Jesus walks by”

What is the course of your life right now?

What is happening?

We usually don’t pay attention

Some responses:

1. Scarlett O’Hara response: “Think about that tomorrow”

- *Amuse and distract ourselves so we won’t think
- TV, radio, politics, leisure, Disneyland
- confession: I like news!

2. Thoreau response:

- “Most men lead lives of quiet desperation”
- *Don’t like to think about it; low grade depression
- lying awake at night trying not to think
- quiet panic and dread

3. Prozac response:

- *Anesthetize ourselves
- we self-medicate, drink, pills, etc.

Course of life has a way of pressing the question of Jesus:

“What are you looking for?” RIGHT NOW

-Don’t put off, panic, self-medicate

*Demands a response

III.

We Make a Move

John 1:39 “Come and see.” They came and saw

Standing on the side of the pool learning to dive

- first move is jumping feet first in with hands over head
- then we finally dive with head first

Jesus responds: “Come and See”

- READ John 1:38-39
- *Notice the open invitation
- *Not your job to convince, argue

E.g. Frank Drachman funeral this week

- major man in my life
- Counsel for University Mechanical
- Alaskan Pipeline, San Onofre
- Sent kids to Young Life, became Christians
- “Not going to get a C on my chest!”
- “Candy BLANK Christians!”
- in Bible study passed a note to a friend
- “Now we are all Christians”

Jesus asks us to Come and See

- no one forces you
- *Take a step and see for yourself if Jesus is real

IV.

We Follow with Others

John 1:41 He first found his brother Simon

READ John 1:40-42

Notice:

- First found his brother = we don't come alone
- First found his brother = someone we know
- “We found the Messiah” = tell someone you know
- All come to Jesus to follow
- *Never alone

John's ORDER of discipleship: people and a pattern

1. Together = Begin with others = My disciple life with Bob
2. Brothers = People we know = Webb School people with Bob
3. Learn together = Messiah = Hear it said with others

Here's the point:

*Get with others you know in order to grow as a disciple

Goal: For you to find what you're looking for and grow into it

1. Change you THINKING
2. Change your TRAINING
3. Do it with OTHERS
4. HOLY SPIRIT of Jesus there:

John 16 Jesus will send, guide us into all truth/faithful ways