SERMON NOTES

Sunday, December 31, 2017

"DISCOVERING PURPOSE IN A MESSY WORLD" (John 6:35-40)

Tomorrow we begin a new year. What will be different about your new year? Change, improvement, and growth will never happen without a plan. A plan will never be accomplished unless you begin. Habits are formed by consistent behavior over time. What choices will you make?

"The steps of a man are established by the LORD, when he delights in his way" (Psalm 37:23, ESV).

1. Choose God's Heart	•
2. Choose to Live Under the	
3. Choose to Live	·
4. Choose to Be	
5. Choose to	
6. Choose to Trust	

"In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world" (John 16:33, ESV).

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"The steps of a man are established by the LORD, when he delights in his way" (Psalm 37:23, ESV).

"For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps" (1 Peter 2:21, ESV).

1. Choose God's Heart for the World

"desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth" (1 Timothy 2:4, ESV).

"not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance" (2 Peter 3:9, ESV).

"For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost" (Luke 19:10, ESV).

2. Choose to Live Under the Control of the Spirit

"Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit" (Ephesians 5:17-18, ESV).

"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly" (Colossians 3:16, ESV).

3. Choose to Live <u>a Pure Life</u>

"For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you abstain from sexual immorality" (1 Thessalonians 4:3, ESV).

4. Choose to Be <u>Thankful in All Things</u>

"In everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus" (1 Thessalonians 5:18, ESV).

5. Choose to Submit to Authority

"Be subject for the Lord's sake to every human institution, whether it be to the emperor as supreme, or to governors as sent by him to punish those who do evil and to praise those who do good. For this is the will of God, that by doing good you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish people" (1 Peter 2:13-15, ESV).

6. Choose to Trust God in Hard Things

"For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil" (1 Peter 3:17, ESV).

"Therefore let those who suffer according to God's will entrust their souls to a faithful Creator while doing good" (1 Peter 4:19, ESV).

"For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake" (Philippians 1:29, ESV).

"*All who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted*" (2 Timothy 3:12, ESV).

"In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world" (John 16:33, ESV).