Sermon Follow-up | January 2, 2022

The Worship of My Church

Focus Passage: 1 Corinthians 10:1–10
Other Passages Referenced: Hebrews 11:1; 1 John 4:7–21

Sermon Recap

1 Corinthians 10 relates how God led the Israelites by a cloud and fire with Moses as their earthly leader. They were chasing freedom and life but didn’t know how to get there without God’s leadership. As we begin 2022, what are you chasing after? Being aware of what you are chasing helps you know who you really are and where you are really going.

As followers of Jesus, we are built to chase after God’s love that leads us to love others. The first step is courage as defined by doing whatever it takes to be who God wants you to be. The second step is compassion that reflects God’s compassion for us. The third step is to have a ferocious conviction that begins with the conviction that Jesus came, lived, died, and rose again to save us. These moves will define all your chasings and your chasings will define you and your relationships. We come to realize our value, not because of what we produce or provide, but rather because of who created us.

Allow the Word to Speak — Be Hearers of the Word (About 1/3 of meeting time)

READ 1 Corinthians 10:1–10

1. What from the passage or sermon was most impactful to you?
2. Were you left with any questions or confusion about the passage or sermon?
3. What experiences does the passage say that all the Israelites shared together?
4. Why was God displeased with most of them? (See 1 Cor 10:6–10)
5. Verse 5 says, “For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ.” How was Jesus present in the wilderness before He was born in Bethlehem?

Put the Word into Practice — Be Doers of the Word (About 1/3 of meeting time)

1. Consider what you are chasing as you enter 2022? How do you see courage, compassion, and conviction playing into your chasings?
2. Does anything come to mind that you are chasing more than a relationship with God and His will?
3. Is there something you need to stop chasing?
4. Do you need to stop any of the behaviors that displease God listed in verses 6–10?

The Big Question: What do you sense God’s Spirit saying to you and what concrete action will you take in response? Share your answer with the group or another trusted Christian and ask them to pray for you.

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES: Click here for some good opportunities.
“It’s not what I read in the Bible and don’t understand that bothers me. It’s what I read and do understand…”

Mark Twain
My beloved friends, let us continue to love each other since love comes from God. Everyone who loves is born of God and experiences a relationship with God. The person who refuses to love doesn’t know the first thing about God, because God is love—so you can’t know him if you don’t love.
This is how God showed his love for us: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. This is the kind of love we are talking about—not that we once upon a time loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as a sacrifice to clear away our sins and the damage they’ve done to our relationship with God.
My dear, dear friends, if God loved us like this, we certainly ought to love each other… God is love…first we were loved, now we love. He loved us first.
If anyone boasts, ‘I love God,’ and goes right on hating his brother or sister, thinking nothing of it, he is a liar. If he won’t love the person he can see, how can he love the God he can’t see? The command we have from Christ is blunt: loving God includes loving people. You’ve got to love both.

1 John 4:7-21 (MSG)
Biblical Wisdom for Relationships

• You can have better relationships if you do some log from the eye removal every day
• We all have blind spots in our relationships that require additional help with log removal
• Relationships that are stuck can get unstuck
• Some relationships are broken but there are lessons to be found in the brokenness
• There are necessary endings in relationships as the truth will define reality
Biblical Wisdom for Relationships (cont.)

- You must learn more about how you set yourself up for difficulties in relationships with family and friends...this is the school of humility.
- We are all responsible for our own relational and spiritual maturity.
- We desperately need God in all our relationships for His love will prevail in hard times.
- Our relationship with Jesus must be the preeminent relationship of our lives.
What are you chasing?—Three moves
• When the sand runs out courage
• George Bailey compassion
• Ferocious conviction