

Sermon Discussion

Peter LaRuffa • 02/18/2024

Conversation starters: If you could live in any era of history, which one would you choose and why?

Within Arms Reach

1. From cover to cover, your Bible upholds the value of every person that was ever created! (Gen 1:26–27, Ex 22:22–25, Lev 19:9–10, 34, Isa 10:1–2, 58:6–8, Matt 25:35–36, Luk 14:12–14, 1:15, 39–40, Rev 21:3–4)
2. You need to approach the Bible with humility, especially if you've read it multiple times. (John 4:1–30, 39–42)
3. You need to know you live side-by-side with modern-day "Samaritan" women & men.
4. You need to approach people with humility and compassion, and not assume you know their story. (Romans 3:23–25, 6:23)
5. What Christ has done will always matter more than what you have done! (2 Corinthians 5:16–21)

Sermon Discussion:

1. Pastor Peter said "Every single person has the image of God 'stamped' on them, and that's what gives them dignity and worth." How does that impact your view of others? How does that impact your view of yourself?
2. When have you struggled to love someone, or see their inherent, God-given dignity?
3. How have you seen the Lord redeem brokenness or dire circumstances in your life?
4. James 1:20 says, "the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God." When are you most tempted to think, "Yeah, but this is different," and ignore what God says?
 - a. Why is this so hard for us to accept?
 - b. What does this often sinful anger say about how we view ourselves and our own sin compared to those who we lash out at or see as "other?"
 - c. How can we be righteously upset at the brokenness that fills our world and yet still draw near to people with hope, compassion, humility, and grace?
5. The Samaritan's woman's life was completely flipped upside down during what felt like it would be an otherwise normal day for her. How good are you at keeping your eyes open for potential "divine appointments" that God may set up for you during your normal routines and daily life? How could you grow to be more watchful, willing, ready, and excited to have your plans interrupted for the sake of spreading the hope of the gospel and be more observant to who God is placing in front of you on a day to day basis?
6. How might God be calling you to step out of your comfort zone to restore the God-given dignity of another person?

Missionary Prayer Spotlight – Jordan and Lauren Thomas (Ethiopia)

- We are praising the Lord as Jordan and Lauren Thomas celebrate the healthy birth of their new baby girl, Ruth. Please continue to pray for a quick and smooth recovery for Lauren
- Pray That the Lord would move in a mighty way and provide all that is needed for the Trinity Fellowship Church capital campaign.
- Pray for continued strength, peace, and dependence on the Lord for Jordan and Lauren both as they faithfully serve.