

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR SUNDAY, SEPT. 20

The Pretenders - Who And How Are You Loving?

***Have you ever seen something that was in fact a counterfeit? What about it made it a counterfeit? What kind of museum did Pastor Lynn say existed in Vienna, Austria?**

***What do you think the top 10 counterfeited products are? Here is the list, are you surprised by some of those on the list? Why or why not?**

- 1. Wearing apparel/accessories: 18% of all counterfeit products seized**
- 2. Footwear: 14%**
- 3. Watches/jewelry: 13%**
- 4. Handbags/wallets: 11%**
- 5. Consumer electronics: 10%**
- 6. Consumer products: 8%**
- 7. Pharmaceuticals/personal care: 7%**
- 8. Optical media: 2%**
- 9. Toys: 1%**
- 10. Computers/accessories: 1%**

***What are some “motivators” that people use or have in place in order for others to gain their love? *As a Christian, what should be our motivation to love others? Can we do this by our own efforts? Why or why not?**

***What is an indicator of whether or not someone is an authentic Christian and not a pretender?**

***Think of someone who, to you, was/is a great example of love. A relative? Friend? What characteristic(s) does that person have that makes them such an example?**

***Who is our greatest example of love? What makes that so?**

***Someone once said that, “we should be like Jesus to others. And if we have to, use words.” What do you think that means? Is it possible? Why or why not? How do we do this?**

Read 1 John 4:17-18

***Do you fear the judgment? Why or why not?**

***What evidence, if you were asked, would you point to that proves that you are not a “pretender?”**

***How can there be an absence of fear in our lives concerning the judgment?**

***In a court of law, someone must be proven guilty “without a reasonable doubt.” Is there enough evidence in your life to prove, without a reasonable doubt, that you are an authentic Christian? Could someone possibly say that you are a pretender?**

***Spend some time in prayer asking God to help you be an authentic believer this week in your actions, attitude, and words toward others....even when it is hard.**

