



SERMON DISCUSSION

QUESTIONS

JUNE 28, 2020

Big Questions: What is the Point of it All? - David Lane

WARM-UP

1. Pastor Dave opened by reflecting on this series overall, by asking the question, “Why ask the big questions?” What big questions in your life have you asked, and have you received answers? What and how? What difference, if any, has it made in your life to have answer(s) to these questions? Dave shared that he believes that the answers to the big questions frame and impact our daily decisions – living out the very reason you exist. What does this mean? Does this work in your life? How?

DIGGING DEEPER

The second big question of this series that Pastor Dave wants us to consider is, “What is the point of it all?” Christian apologist and teacher Ravi Zacharias identified this question as one of the four fundamental questions that all worldviews must coherently answer (and therefore, all people who hold that worldview) – “why am I here?” Or another way, “what is my purpose in life?” It is the question of meaning. Prior to Dave’s sermon, how would you have answered that question for yourself? Why?

His Glory must be greater than our story – READ: Habakkuk 2:14 and Psalm 19:1-6

2. Dave defined God’s Glory as the outward radiance of His inner character and nature. What do these two passages tell us about God’s Glory? What is the common notion between these passages? Why is the notion important?
3. Read Psalm 115:1-3. How does this passage reflect the relationship of our story to God’s Glory? In verse 1, what is the basis for God’s Glory being primary? (*Hint: watch out for the special word that we’ve studied and know!*) What does that mean for us?

Our story is for His Glory – READ: Isaiah 43:25 and Psalm 23:3

4. What do these two passages tell us about the reason for our salvation? Is this thinking about the purpose of salvation new for you? How would you say it in your own words?
5. Read Colossians 1:15-20. In his acclaimed book, *The Purpose Driven Life*, Pastor Rick Warren’s opening section of the book is entitled, “What on earth am I here for?” (this is also the subtitle of the entire book). Then, the very first sentence of the entire book is, “It’s not about you.” What does this say about us? About our life? And how does this tie to the Colossians passage?
6. Read Psalm 67:1-7. What does this passage say about the purpose of God’s blessings (grace) on us – why are we blessed? How does this passage answer, in part, this big question?

The realization (the why) of this big question – READ: Ephesians 3:10-11

7. In addition to the nations (and all people), from this passage, who also is the intended audience for God's wisdom? And what is the mechanism to bring God's Wisdom and Glory in this way? So, God's Glory is greater than who's story? With this understanding, read Philippians 2:9-11. To what will give ultimate Glory to God?

Bonus Question – May take a bit of outside study

8. The Protestant Reformation (of which we, as believers, are a part), beginning in the late 15th and early 16th centuries, can be summarized by five statements of God's truth (as revealed by Scripture) – the five 'solas' (Latin for 'alone') of the Reformation. What are these five core statements and what do they mean? And of the fifth statement, why is it the pinnacle statement? And what, in this fifth sola, were the first reformers saying about their belief?

PRAYER

Reflecting on this message, use this time of prayer to do as Dave suggests we do: "Take a hard look at your story – your decisions, your actions, your thoughts, your relationships, and ask yourself, does my story bring Him Glory?" Ask God to lead you in the ways and paths of His will so that your story will bring Him Glory.

Just in case you missed the service here are the EAC, Facebook, and YouTube links:

<http://edgewateralliance.org/media/sermon-videos>

<https://www.facebook.com/edgewateralliance/>

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCWvQTWUv1FD_qsUJUzn93kw