

SERMON DISCUSSION

QUESTIONS

JULY 12, 2020

Big Questions: Are You Ready to Die? - David Lane

WARM-UP

1. Pastor Dave opened with a story of a scary cab ride in the mountains of Jamaica on the way to the airport, that looked to be a “near death experience”. Have you experienced a time when death seemed close? How would you describe that experience relative to your faith at the time?

DIGGING DEEPER

The fourth big question of this series that Pastor Dave wants us to consider is, “Are you ready to die?” While the question of eternal destiny at the end of earthly life is critical for humanity (it is the last of Ravi Zacharias’ four big worldview questions), today Dave is posing this question for the believer who already has their eternal account settled with God. So, this question is not of eternal security, but rather is an invitation that comes from Jesus Himself while we are still in our earthly lives – thus, not for our mortal lives, but for our spiritual lives. It is the question of commitment...the question of trust...the question of loyalty.

If/Then – READ: Luke 9:18-25

2. The invitation of Jesus in verse 23 is the big ‘if/then’ – from this verse, what does it take to be a follower of Jesus? What does this mean? Who is this invitation open to? Why?
3. In New Testament scripture, our English word, ‘repent’ is from the Greek word, *metanoeo*, meaning, ‘to change your mind’ as in the path or direction you are heading. Read Mark 1:14-15. These are Jesus’ first words of His public ministry. In verse 15, how does this invitation by Jesus correspond to Luke 9:23? And in verse 14, what is this invitation called?
4. In verses 24 and 25, the ‘if/then’ become even more clear. What does Jesus mean in these verses relative to our lives? Again, what is His invitation?

Let’s Get Specific – READ: 2 Corinthians 5:14-15 and 17-20

5. In verses 14-15, how would you summarize Paul’s point? What does it mean for you?
6. So, if we take the invitation to die to ourselves and live for Him, what specifically does living for God look like? In verses 17-19, how does Paul describe it? What is the key word? If we are living for Him, why is this word so important?
7. In verse 20, how does Paul describe our role in His Kingdom? Read the Dallas Willard quote (below) – how does this quote inform your thinking about verses 17-20? Explain.

In “Renovation of the Heart,” Dallas Willard said:

Jesus did not send his students out to start governments or even churches as we know them today, which always strongly convey some elements of a human system. They were, instead, to establish beachheads of his person, word, and power in the midst of a failing and futile humanity. They were to bring the presence of the kingdom and its King into every corner of human life simply by fully living in the kingdom with him.

PRAYER

Dave asks us, “are you ready to die to self, and live for Him?” In your prayers, seek His face, seek His Kingdom, and ask how He wants you to die to your self and how He wants you to live for Him in the places where you live, work and play – how you can be His ambassador for His Kingdom.

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