

September 1, 2019

SERMON: Finding Joy in the Brevity and Brokenness of Life

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 90

SPEAKER: Pastor Mark

THE GOAL: The primary goal of a small group at Grace is to develop a Christian community where Jesus is experienced through the gospel.

ACCOUNTABILITY QUESTIONS: Use these questions to explore how God is at work in our families, communities, workplaces, and church.

1. Where have you seen God at work in your life this week?
2. What temptations have you been facing this week? How is God delivering you?
3. How have you experienced God's grace this week?
4. In what ways are you growing in your love for God?
5. In what ways are you growing in your love for others?
6. Have you started or stopped something this week just because you love Jesus?

REVIEW: Use these questions to better understand and apply the passage/sermon.

Observation: as a group talk through and summarize the passage. Think through Who, What, Where, When, How, Why questions together.

Interpretation: answer these questions together:

1. What does this passage teach us about God?
2. What does this passage teach us about us (mankind)?
3. What does this passage teach us about salvation/grace?
4. How does this passage point to Christ?

Application: answer these questions together:

1. How does this passage convict you? Encourage you? Inspire you?
2. What specific truth do you see about God (his grace? love? holiness?) and how would your life be different if you really believed it?
3. By God's grace, what commitments do you need to make this week? Or, what do you need to start obeying/believing?

GO DEEPER: Use these questions to go deeper into the passage, minds, and hearts.

1. Psalm 90:1 says God is our dwelling place—our refuge, source of protection and security, our home. How does this truth bring you comfort? Share about how you might be struggling to find your security in God right now.
2. In this Psalm, Moses reflects about how our lives pass so quickly. Have you felt this in your own life? How does thinking about the brevity of this life impact how you live today?
3. Pastor Mark shared about how this psalm convicted him about his own sin (See v. 7-11). Is there any sin you need to confess and repent of? Are you willing to share with your group?
4. "Lament is a prayer in pain that leads to trust." Are you grieving or lamenting right now? And is that grief leading you to turn to God in your sorrows or to something else?
5. Do you think it's possible to have joy even in the midst of the brokenness of life? How does the unflinching, steadfast love of God shape your joy in this life?