

Home Group Questions

The week of 10/27/2019

Matthew 16:24-28

QUESTIONS BY JESUS! WHAT DOES IT PROFIT A MAN IF...?

GETTING STARTED...

This past Sunday, Pastor Mel continued his series on "Questions by Jesus". This question highlights the value of the human soul and the tragedy of someone who loses or forfeits his/her soul.

LOOKING IN THE WORD...

1. Read Matthew 16:24-28. The early part of this passage really identifies how not to "forfeit" your soul. What does it mean to you as a follower of Christ to "deny yourself"...and what does it mean to you to "take up your cross daily"? How do these two concepts go hand in hand as you seek to live your life for Christ?

"save your life" - what does this phrase mean? How does a person live in such a way that he or she is seeking to "save their life"? How do we lose our life for Christ?

"forfeit our soul" - this phrase is the one that identifies the soul as extremely valuable. What does this verse tell you about how to be personally successful in God's eyes. Talk about some of the definitions of success that are touted in the world and how they compare to Christ's definition of success.

2. The sermon shared some definitions of success.

Discuss these definitions and how they should impact your life on a daily basis:

"Success is obedience to God, empowered by the Spirit of God, motivated by love for God, and directed toward the advancement of the kingdom of God".

"Success is devoting yourself to the fulfillment of the Great Commission in the spirit of the Great Commandments".

"True success is about believing, loving, and obeying God. It is focusing on that which is eternal rather than on that which is temporary. It is being transformed by the work of God in our lives, minds, and hearts".

3. Read 1 Thessalonians 5:23, Hebrews 4:12, Romans 8:16; and 1 Corinthians 15:44. - There are

basically two views about the composition of humans:

1) Dichotomy teaches that man has basically two parts: Body and Soul (which includes the mind and emotions).

The word "spirit" is viewed as synonymous with the word "soul".

2) Trichotomy teaches that man has three parts: Body, soul, and spirit. The spirit is the part of a human which is essentially the personality of the individual and is viewed as a subset of the soul. The spirit being contained in the soul. These theological differences exist in a church like Riverview and these views are not what we would consider essentials of the faith. Pastor Mel holds to a trichotomous view of man reflecting the very image of God which itself is a Trinity. Discuss these differences so that you understand them and get to a point where you are comfortable taking a position on this matter (Great topic for personal Bible study at home).

4. Read 2 Corinthians 4:16-18. Pastor Mel spoke on the importance of living our lives with an "eternal perspective". What does that mean to you in your life? How does that help you in dealing with the trials and tribulations we sometimes experience in this life?

MOVING FORWARD...

Pray for the wisdom to value things the way God values them.