

Ruin To Renovation - Sermon #25 - How's My Soul? Pt2

Study Questions for Groups & Individuals

OPENING PRAYER:

1. Pray for passion for the Word, Purity, Holiness, Spirit-filled lives, and Effective Evangelism to be fanned into flame at Six:Eight.

DISCUSSION & OPENER:

1. What TV shows, movies, or other art-forms illustrate for us the questions Jesus asks in Mt 16:26 (read)?
2. In one *Black Mirror* episode due to technology imbedded in their eyes, people had the ability to block someone with whom they didn't wish to interact with any longer. With a push of a button, both parties only see a silhouette of the other, and only hear murmuring when they speak.
 1. Does this feel like your relationship with God - that you only see a fuzzy silhouette, and can't understand his voice?
 2. How does Augustine's quote, "*Thou hast made us for thyself, O Lord, and our heart is restless until it finds its rest in thee,*" relate to this?
3. Read through the following Psalms, does this describe your heart's longing? Why or why not? Ps 63:1 / 63:5 / 63:8 / 84:2 / 42:1-2 / 46:1-5 - have different people read each one aloud.
4. Read aloud Mt 6:25-34
 1. Do you worry like this? About what?
 2. How important is v3? And what does it look like to do that?
 3. How does 1 Peter 5:7-9 speak to this worry & the pursuits of life?
5. Read 1 Peter 2:11 - do you allow sinful desire to wage war against your soul? How does Hebrews 4:12 speak to this issue?
6. Jesus claimed to uphold the Law of God as Good in 5:17-19 (read), and given what Paul said in Romans 6:1-2 (read) - how much do you think about your soul's need to pursue purity & holiness in order to not have anything stand in the way of your fellowship with the Holy Spirit?
 1. Look at Romans 8:5-8 and discuss what it means to Walk in the Spirit in line with the Law of God, or to walk in the Flesh.
 2. What are the foundational differences between the Legalistic & the Spirit-filled life?
7. Discuss this paragraph on p6 of the sermon... "*There's an inner connection & affinity between the soul & the law of God. It's why when we become habitual law-breakers, our souls become sickly & distanced from God. But love of the Law restores the soul under the confines of God's grace. The love of the Law of God restores us since it expresses the order of God's kingdom & reveals God's character. If we want to know God more fully, we look deeply into the eyes of his perfect law. Grace is essential in the sense, we can't live up to the Law of God, we can't save ourselves by following it perfectly. But, Grace isn't something which just gives us a freedom to do as we please throwing God's character/Law aside.*"