



JANUARY 19, 2020
SERMON NOTES
"MAKING A DIFFERENCE"
MARK 8:34-35



I. Introduction/Review

- A. Our reflection question from last week was “what breaks my _____?”
- B. If you want to know what breaks your heart think about this sentence ““At the end of my life, I would like people to line up and _____ me for...”
- C. If you decide to move in the direction of what breaks your heart it will _____ you something.

II. Deny yourself

- A. Jesus is asking “who will be your _____?” (Luke 14:26)
- B. The essence of _____ Jesus is self-denial, not self-improvement.
- C. To ‘deny yourself’ is to say ‘no’ to you so you can say ‘yes’ to something _____ than you.

III. The purpose driven life

- A. Jesus invited his audience to live a life of _____.
- B. To find purpose you _____ your life away and you find a different kind of life.
- C. Reflection questions: What breaks my heart? Who is doing something about it? How can I _____?

Things I would like to remember about this message:

Asbury Daily Study Guide

INTRODUCTION

This is the time of year when we become painfully aware of where we are not, who we are not, and what we need to do differently. Traditionally, it's a season of self-absorption. We wonder how to get slimmer, stronger, and smarter. We wonder how to get out of debt. We wonder how to become better people. If you really want to become a better person, do something this year to make the world a better place. But how do you determine what you should do?

Monday: Nehemiah 1:1-11

Last week we said that Nehemiah's heart was broken and he set out to do something about it. The question Eric asked everyone to reflect on this past week was "What breaks my heart?" Over the last week as you wrestled with that question, what came to mind?

Tuesday: Colossians 1:15-20

The apostle Paul reminds us that everything got started in him and finds purpose in him. In what ways have you pursued significance throughout your life? How successful were those approaches?

Wednesday: Luke 14:25-27

Respond to what Jesus said in the passage. In what ways does it challenge your assumptions about your purpose in life? In what ways is it comforting?

Thursday: Mark 8:34-35

How would you answer this question: "At the end of my life I would like people to line up and thank me for..."? What might it cost you in terms of time, money, missed opportunity, or family time to pursue that desired future?

Friday John 10:7-10

Jesus invites us to follow him and find the abundant life. But to find the abundant life you need to say no to you and yes to something bigger than you. What is one thing you can do to begin to move toward that desired future?

MOVING FORWARD

What breaks your heart? What needs to change in your community? What can you do? Who can you partner with? Jesus invites you to a life of purpose. Devote yourself to more than yourself so you will have more than yourself to show for yourself.

Answers to the sermon notes:

- IA) heart, B) thank, C) cost.
- IIA) master, B) following, C) bigger.
- IIIA) purpose, B) give, C) help.