



Asbury Church



July 14, 2019

Sermon Notes

“Mary POPPINS RETURNS”

JEREMIAH 29:11-13

I. The great slump

- A. Mary Poppins Returns is a 2018 musical film based upon the book series Mary Poppins by P. L. _____.
- B. Scripture teaches us that when we go through difficult seasons in life, God is not absent, apathetic and not _____ with you.

II. Mary Poppins returns

- A. Like the _____ of old, Mary Poppins arrives when the main characters have lost their way.
- B. Mary Poppins Returns teaches repeatedly that there is more to life than what can be _____ and there are more possibilities than can be imagined.

III. Trip a little light fantastic

- A. John tells us that Jesus is the light that shines in the _____.
- B. We are called to reflect the _____ of the Son, as the moon reflects the light of the sun.

IV. The Place where the lost things go

- A. The song “The Place Where the Lost Things Go” seems to give an assurance of the _____.
- B. If Jesus has gone to prepare a place for us (John 14), those who have died in the Lord are not _____; they are just unseen for now.

Things I would like to remember about this message:

Asbury Daily Study Guide

INTRODUCTION

In Depression-era London, a now-grown Jane and Michael Banks, along with Michael's three children, are visited by the enigmatic Mary Poppins following a personal loss. Through her unique magical skills, and with the aid of her friend Jack, she helps the family rediscover the joy and wonder missing in their lives. So where does this story point us toward the Gospel?

Monday: Matthew 4:12-13, Matthew 11:2-6

When John the Baptist was arrested, Jesus did not go visit him he went further away from him. This left John wondering if Jesus was who he thought he was. Has there ever been a time when you felt God was absent from your life, apathetic about what you were going through, or angry with you. How did it influence your relationship with him? What did you do?

Tuesday: Job 1:13-22

Job experienced tragic loss in his life and still had tremendous faith in God. Have you ever seen someone demonstrate great faith in God despite difficult circumstances? If so, how did the person's faith influence your own?

Wednesday: John 1:1-5

"The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness doesn't extinguish the light" (verse 5). God did not shun our darkened world, but came to live here—and in this world, Jesus' life created new life and light for all who trusted in him. Have there been times when it seemed that darkness was trying to put out God's light in your life? What spiritual practices keep you growing closer to God, so that God's light keeps shining more and more brightly for you?

Thursday: John 16:32-33

Many people in Jesus' day, and in ours, think (perhaps subconsciously) that "being good" or "following Jesus" should be a kind of "suffering insurance." Jesus didn't see it that way. How do you react to his honest words: "In the world you have distress"? How can you live into the flip side of his teaching—to "be encouraged" even in distress because he's overcome the world?

Friday: John 14

In this passage, Jesus makes the promise that he is going to prepare a place for us. Do you believe in an afterlife? If yes, does it change how you live today?

MOVING FORWARD

Like Michael Banks in *Mary Poppins Returns*, we all go through difficult times in life. During those difficult times we must not get resentful and angry but put our faith in God. We must follow the light that shines in the darkness. That is where we find hope in the midst of despair and the assurance of a future beyond this life.

Answers to the sermon notes:

- IA) Travers, B) angry.
- IIA) prophets, B) seen.
- IIIA) darkness, B) light.
- IVA) afterlife, B) lost.