One Small Step – Week 3
Spiritual Formation – Jim Burgen
January 30, 2022

Group Creed

We come together as a Group with the goal of Spiritual Formation--encouraging one another to become the same kind of person Jesus is, so that we can live out every part of our lives inside of His Kingdom.

// Bible References

Matthew 4:17; Luke 5:1-11; Philippians 1:6

// Message Summary

Welcome to the third week of our Flatirons Values Series where we're taking one small step toward having the kind of life that Jesus describes as better. By calibrating our hearts and minds with what God says is right and true, we can have the abundant life that Jesus offers. Why doesn't this take place in the instant we decide to believe in God? Because realizing success in almost any area of life involves not just deciding where you want to go, but consulting the right map, getting on the road, sometimes asking for directions or making course corrections and getting on with the journey every day. This week Pastor Jim Burgen encourages us as we embark and continue on the life-long journey of spiritual formation.

// Biblical and Historical Context

Luke wrote his gospel from the heart, and it's full of stories of the everyday lives of regular people in the land of Judea. We see Jesus through the very personal relationships He had with those He encountered during His time here on earth. Without compromise or contradiction, Luke helps us understand the supernatural character of God by through a biography of Jesus complete with details of His perfect humanity. Jesus faced many of the same trials of life that we do, so He understands our weaknesses. The bible tells us that Jesus' sacrificial death on our behalf is effective because of His perfect life: He was, "tempted in every way as we are, yet without sin (Hebrews 4:12)." His resurrection from the dead competes an earthly story but is for us just the beginning. Jesus spent His life on earth so we could be connected in the same way He was to the Father in Heaven. Spiritual formation is what happens in our lives when our actions on the outside line up with the Spirit of Jesus within us.

// Community Questions

1. Share one or two funny stories that illustrate “it’s not always about the destination . . . but the journey along the way”

2. Ask a member of the group to share a good fishing story.

// Discussion Questions

1. Read Luke 5:1-11; what part of this fishing story stands out to you?

2. Luke provides us with the only account of this story. What do we learn about Simon Peter and his companions? What do we learn about Jesus?

3. Why do you think Peter reacts the way he does in verse 8?

4. What is one area that you could re-think in your life?

5. Read Luke 6:45 aloud and share one good thing you have noticed this week?

// Challenge

No matter where you are in life, the challenge of this series has been to take one small step in the direction of Jesus. How can you take one small step to allow God to shape your heart this week? Will you read the Bible and think on something God has shown you from His word? Maybe you will pray that God will help you change your mind or your heart about someone? Will you set aside your fears and trust God in some direction or action you need to take?