

Sermon Title: Follow Me- Become Like Jesus

Sermon Scripture: Romans 8:28-29



Sermon Discussion Guide (8/17)

Begin the discussion by checking in with each person present and share prayer requests/praises with the group. Then, have one person offer a prayer for the group making sure to include any prayer requests that were mentioned earlier.

Scripture

Read Romans 8:28-29 out loud. Discuss any initial thoughts you have about these verses.

Observation

How is the word “good” being used in verse 28? How is this use of the word "good" different from saying that God will always make you happy or that you will have material wealth?

What do these verses reveal about God’s purpose for our lives? At the end of verse 29, what does it mean specifically that Jesus is the firstborn among many?

Read Jeremiah 18:1-6. What does the potter do with the pot that is marred or broken? What does this reveal about what God does with us and our brokenness from sin?

In these verses, who reshapes the pot, the potter or the clay? What does this teach us about God’s role in our spiritual transformation versus our own role in the process?

Application

In what area of your life are you seeking discernment or wisdom in order to take a next step? Is it in navigating a relationship, making decisions related to your vocation, or is it something else? How does knowing that God's purpose is to make you like Jesus give you a sense of clarity in this area of your life, even if you do not have all the answers?

The Holy Spirit molds us into the image of Jesus. Sometimes this molding is gentle, other times it involves pressure and the feeling of going through the fire. Why is pressure and conviction a necessary part of spiritual transformation? How have you experienced God's loving pressure shaping you into becoming more like Jesus?

One of the ways that we are transformed into the image of Jesus is through being in community with other Christians. How has God used someone else to encourage or convict you in your spiritual journey? How might God be calling you to go deeper into community with other Christ followers?

How is the Holy Spirit currently seeking to mold you to become more like Jesus? In this area of your life, are you yielding to the Holy Spirit or are you resisting Him? Is there one step God is calling you to take this week to more fully surrender to the Holy Spirit and the good work He is doing in your life?

Prayer

Gracious God, You are the Potter and we are the clay. We confess that too often we have tried to shape ourselves, to fix ourselves, to force our own growth. But You have called us to something better, not to strive, but to surrender. So we open our hands and invite Your Spirit to move. Shape us, Lord. Form us into the likeness of Jesus. Where we are hardened, soften us. Where we are resistant, humble us. Where we are broken, heal us. Help us to walk in obedience, to live in community, and to trust Your process. For we believe, O Lord, that You who began a good work in us will be faithful to complete it. In the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior, Amen.