

Sunday, March 5, 2017 - "Faulty Expectations" - Doug Kempton

Key Passages: Luke 19:28-44, 2 Corinthians 4:18, 2 Corinthians 6:4-10

- Feel free to read the passage(s) out loud as a group
- Allow the group to share freely about what stood out to them from the passage or from Sunday's message

Main Ideas

- Expectations are the bed-rock/foundation of relationship
 - They color every relationship that you have
 - An expectation gap exists when what we expect is not what happens and can lead to hurt/pain
 - Sometimes we are expecting something from someone that we can only get from God
- This is true in our relationship with God as well
- During passover in Jerusalem people would come from all over
 - The high priest would go out and carry in a lamb for the passover
 - Jesus entering into Jerusalem was on the same day that the priest would bring in the sacrificial lamb
 - People see "the lamb" but they don't know it
 - They receive Jesus as the King of the Jews, as the messiah...they got this part right
- But over the course of the next few days something happened (triumphal entry → crucifixion)
 - Their expectations didn't match what Jesus actually did
 - They turned on Him
 - When we ask "How could they do that?" we should ask instead "How am I just like them?"
 - "When God doesn't meet our expectations and we don't deal with it intentionally, we will find ourselves turning away from God and crucifying what he is doing in us and through us" - Doug Kempton
- Jesus sees Jerusalem and weeps, and because of God's love Jesus weeps for us
 - It's like Jesus is saying, "If you would only have known..."
 - The story of God's people
 - God doesn't meet expectations
 - They crucify what God is doing in them
 - Moses - "Kill me now"
 - Faulty expectations are caused by shortsighted vision (2 Corinthians 4:18)
 - We need to lift our eyes from our immediate surroundings/circumstances and look to Jesus
 - God is much more concerned with our character than our circumstance (2 Corinthians 6:4-10)
 - **Temporal circumstance VS. Eternal perspective
- The challenge for us is to redefine our expectations
 - Presence
 - Peace
 - Power

Questions (Feel free to use all of these, some of these, or none of these)

1. When was a time when your expectations of God were not right? What did God teach you during that time?
2. Are there disappointments with God that you haven't dealt with? Share them if you are comfortable
3. How is God challenging you to think/reflect on things that are eternal instead of circumstances that are temporary?
4. What would it do for your life and your heart if you rightly expected God's Presence?
5. What would it do for your life and your heart if you rightly expected God's Peace?
6. What would it do for your life and your heart if you rightly expected God's Power?
7. What is God calling you to or inviting you into as a result of this passage and/or message?

****15 Minutes with God Reading Plan - Mon: Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7 Tues: Psalm 32 Wed: Romans 5:12-17 Thurs: Matthew 4:1-11**

Fri: Luke 20:1-18

****5 Minutes Reading/5 Minutes Writing/5 Minutes Praying**