

Sunday, April 2, 2017 - "The Battle" - Gerald Coleman

Key Passages: Luke 22:31-34

- 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

- In Christ we are all going from immaturity to maturity
 - Students and adults
 - We all wrestle with similar things
- Jesus called a young man named Simon
 - Simon means reed
 - One minute he is strong and doing what he's supposed to do and one minute he is not
 - Jesus changes Simon's name to Peter
 - He says "I see something in you" Peter = rock
 - An encounter w/ God changes who we are
- Luke 22
 - In the midst of the passover...
 - Jesus says someone will betray him then there is a conversation about who is the greatest
 - Jesus talks to them about being a servant
 - Jesus tells Peter "Satan wants you"
 - He wants to scatter you and wreak havoc in your life
 - There is an enemy that wants to destroy our lives
 - This, Is, A. Battle.
- Often we want to protect young people from ever having to be tested
 - At some point a test is coming
 - It's for your faith...Satan wants to destroy your faith (Jesus prayed for Peter's FAITH)
- Peter essentially says "What are you talking about Lord?!?" when Jesus tells him what will happen
 - Later Peter does exactly what Jesus said he would do. Jesus knew Peter better than he knew himself
 - The rooster crows and Peter knows exactly what happened
- Peter's heart was EXPOSED
 - But the Father never exposes our hearts to embarrass us
 - He doesn't want to shame us BUT wants to deal with our shame
 - He wants to purify us. He is trying to make us look like Jesus
 - God knows us: He knows who you are way down. He will deal with all of the other stuff
- After Jesus is resurrected he finds Peter
 - Jesus' love was deep enough for the depths of Peter. He dealt with Peter's shame
 - When the Holy Spirit comes Peter preaches & 3,000 people come to Jesus
- God knows us better than we know ourselves
 - he still wants to use us
 - Jesus knows our struggle and is our high priest who offers grace when we come to Him

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

1. What is the last thing God said to you?
2. Who do you hear God saying that you are? (like when he called Simon, Peter)
3. When was a time when God made you aware of the battle? What did he teach you or show you in that time?
4. What are some of the things that God is trying to expose in your heart?
5. What test are you in the midst of right now? How is God working to purify you?
6. How does the idea that God knows you completely and still wants to use you make you feel?
7. Are you actively allowing God to deal with your "stuff"? What does it look like for you to allow God to do this?
8. What is God inviting you into as a result of this passage or sermon?

****15 Minutes with God Reading Plan - Mon: Ezekiel 37:1-14 Tues: Psalm 130 Wed: Romans 8:6-11 Thurs: Matthew 21:1-11**

Fri: Luke 23

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