

Saturday & Sunday, October 28 & 29, 2017 - "You Are...Now Be" - Doug Kempton

Key Passages: Colossians 3:1-17, Philippians 4:8, Galatians 2:20

- 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

- If you have been raised with Christ, then...
 - 1. Seek the things that are above
 - No one talks to YOU more than YOU
 - Thought life/conversation we have in our own head
 - Philippians Test (Philippians 4:8) → Called to think about these things
 - We have to take our thoughts captive
 - We can probably all think of what consumes our mind
 - What God has said to us is really important
 - 2. Put off the old self with it's practices
 - v5 → we're called to "obliterate" these things in our lives (list of VICES)
 - But if we're not careful, it can become a religious activity
 - "God is far less concerned with your sin than you think. He is far more concerned with your heart." - Dr. Rob Reimer
 - "Grace is not opposed to effort; it is opposed to earning." - Dallas Willard
 - When is it our place and when is it God's?
 - We have to participate in our holiness and obliterating sin in our lives, but it is not just about the list
 - Galatians 2:20, Galatians 5:16, Galatians 6:8
 - 3. Put on the new self
 - Colossians 3:11
 - Here → People of God, walking in the Spirit (throwing away all of the social markers)
 - New race/new humanity
 - The mosaic - Still unique, bringing who we are to make something beautiful together
 - v12-14: List of virtues
 - Vices and virtues (the old and new self) can't exist together
 - We have to put to death the one to allow the other to come through
 - Paul is saying...**You are. Now be!**
 - Time to live into who God has made us to be
 - Theological indicative = statement about who we are
 - Ethical Imperative = the way we are called to live our lives
 - God statements about who we are in Christ → us living our lives as he calls us to
 - God INITIATES, we RESPOND

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

1. How are you doing at thinking about "things that are above"?
2. What are some of the things you are saying to yourself? What does God have to say instead?
3. When was a time when getting rid of sins or vices became a to do list or a "religious activity"? What has God taught you about it?
4. What does the phrase "You are. Now be." mean to you?
5. Who has God said that you are? How does that need to inform your thoughts and your actions?
6. What is God inviting you into as a result of this passage or message?

****15 Minutes with God Reading Plan-**

Mon: 2 John Tues: 3 John Wed: James 1 Thurs: James 2 Fri: James 3