



ALL SAINTS

PRESBYTERIAN

SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE FOR ALL SAINTS SMALL GROUPS

“Lucky is the Man” | Rev. Tim Frickenschmidt | February 9, 2020

Isaiah 53:4-7

Surely he has borne our griefs
and carried our sorrows;
yet we esteemed him stricken,
smitten by God, and afflicted.
5 But he was pierced for our
transgressions;
he was crushed for our iniquities;
upon him was the chastisement that
brought us peace,
and with his wounds we are healed.
6 All we like sheep have gone astray;
we have turned—every one—to his
own way;
and the Lord has laid on him
the iniquity of us all.
7 He was oppressed, and he was
afflicted,
yet he opened not his mouth;
like a lamb that is led to the slaughter,
and like a sheep that before its
shearers is silent,
so he opened not his mouth.

John 13:1-9

13 Now before the Feast of the
Passover, when Jesus knew that his
hour had come to depart out of this
world to the Father, having loved his
own who were in the world, he loved
them to the end. 2 During supper,
when the devil had already put it into
the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's
son, to betray him, 3 Jesus,
knowing that the Father had given all
things into his hands, and that he had
come from God and was going back to
God, 4 rose from supper. He laid aside
his outer garments, and taking a
towel, tied it around his waist. 5 Then
he poured water into a basin and
began to wash the disciples' feet and
to wipe them with the towel that was
wrapped around him. 6 He came to
Simon Peter, who said to him, “Lord,
do you wash my feet?” 7 Jesus
answered him, “What I am doing you

Intro Reflection

1 Peter 2:11-18; 21-24; 3:1-2; 3:7

11 Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul. 12 Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation.

13 Be subject for the Lord's sake to every human institution, whether it be to the emperor as supreme, 14 or to governors as sent by him to punish those who do evil and to praise those who do good. 15 For this is the will of God, that by doing good you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish people. 16 Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God. 17 Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the emperor.

18 Servants, be subject to your masters with all respect, not only to the good and gentle but also to the unjust.

21 For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. 22 He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. 23 When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. 24 He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.

3 Likewise, wives, be subject to your own husbands, so that even if some do not obey the word, they may be won without a word by the conduct of their wives, 2 when they see your respectful and pure conduct.

7 Likewise, husbands, live with your wives in an understanding way, showing honor to the woman as the weaker vessel, since they are heirs with you of the grace of life, so that your prayers may not be hindered.

Background

The 1 Peter passage and exhortation to “be subject” is actually about freedom. By faith we are to live a new, distinctly Christian life: to keep our conduct “beautiful, attractive” and keep a distance from our “over-desires.” Peter says in paradox that we are only free if we’re slaves to God. You were created by God and for God therefore the only over-desire that will not destroy and damage you is God.

do not understand now, but afterward you will understand.” 8 Peter said to him, “You shall never wash my feet.” Jesus answered him, “If I do not wash you, you have no share with me.”9 Simon Peter said to him, “Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!”

Discuss:

1. Tim used many illustrations as allusions on Sunday, from Walker Percy's Will Barrett in *The Last Gentleman*, to Nancy the prostitute in *Oliver Twist*; David Brook's "Age of Possibility" article and lastly *The Triumph of Pastor Son*. Discuss what you remember from these illustrations. Which resonated most with you and/or was most convicting?
2. When Tim said God is the only over-desire that will not damage you, he listed a number of traits including: commitment, boundaries, faithfulness, and promises. How in each of these things is there freedom?
3. As Christ, we are called to be both citizens and servants. What does this mean and look like?

Conclusion/Application

God took on human flesh –he limited and confined himself, submitted to injustice and cruelty, the agonies of sin. He gave up infinite freedom to restore ours, to give us an over-desire for him. His wounds can heal our desires. Live free in Christ.