HOUSE TO HAUSE

This is a resource for you to take the word God gives us in His house to your house!

A **HELPFUL TIP**: RE-watch the sermon online (available @ facebook.com/journeychurch.family) by yourself or with others.

CHASING CARROTS: Comfort

Sunday, October 27, 2019

What really makes for a happy life? A dream job, house, or a new relationship? If you're always hungry for the next big thing, but frustrated because it never seems to satisfy, you might be Chasing Carrots. It's time to hop off the wheel and chase after something real. This series is about the things people commonly chase after that only bring fleeting happiness, fulfillment, or validation—things like fame, achievements, approval, fame, or comfort.

1 JOHN 2:15 ESV

"Do not love the world, nor the things in the world, for if anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him."

BIBLICAL THOUGHT —> The phrase 'the world' is mentioned 17 different times in this letter. The contextual definition for this phrase is talking of the cultural system of the world or the spirit in the world guiding, influencing and leading our culture.

A popular mindset many have in the world today:

"I WANT A LIFE DEFINED BY EASE MORE THAN EFFORT. I WANT COMFORT MORE THAN CHALLENGE. I DESIRE THINGS DONE THE EASY WAY OVER THE HARD WAY."

CHASING COMFORT CAN OFTEN REVEAL SPIRITUAL EMPTINESS AND ELIMINATE OUR NEED FOR FAITH.

POWER THOUGHT —> You can't pursue comfort & walk by faith at the same time.

2 CORINTHIANS 1:3-5 NIV

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God. For just as we share abundantly in the sufferings of Christ, so also our comfort abounds through Christ.

THE COMFORT WE ARE CHASING CAN ONLY TRULY BE FOUND IN GOD!

CHALLENGE #1:

>>>>>BEGIN EMBRACING DIVINE DISCOMFORT<

POWER THOUGHT —> Discomforts produces growth in you and brings strengths to the surface of your life. Counterfeit comfort produces a staleness that suppresses spiritual strengths from ever surfacing in your life.

JAMES 1:2-3 NIV

Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, <u>whenever</u> you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

BIBLICAL THOUGHT —> The word 'testing' in the verse above in the greek is the word 'dokimion' and is the same word used to the describe what a silversmith would do with raw silver. It's a painful purpose that simply serves to bring out ultimate <u>purity</u>.

MANY TIMES THE MOST VALUABLE THINGS IN YOUR LIFE ARE BROUGHT TO YOU THROUGH MOMENTS AND SEASON OF GREAT PAIN.

ROMANS 5:3-5 NIV

3 Not only so, but we also glory (some translations interpret the word 'glory' to be literal celebration) in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; 4 perseverance, character; and character, hope. 5 And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

GOD CAN CREATE GREAT PURPOSE FROM WITHIN OUR GREATEST PAIN!
What areas of pain in your life can you apply this truth to?

CHALLENGE #2

>>>>KNOW THIS EARTHLY LIFE IS NOT YOUR BEST LIFE<

ROMANS 8:18-19 NLT

Yet what we suffer <u>now</u> is nothing compared to the glory he will reveal to us <u>later</u>. For all creation is waiting eagerly for that future day when God will reveal who his children really are.

POWER THOUGHT —> The longing you have for comfort is wired for the comfort God has for you in eternity. We don't live for this life or for the things in 'the world' which will always produce an emptiness. Live your life focused on the life He has waiting for you in eternity!

PRAY: God, I repent from chasing after things that carry no eternal value. I resign from pursuing counterfeit comforts. I want my life filled with and focused on You even in times of great pain. Thank you for being my true source of comfort in all. Thank you that with you I can smile, even in a trial. You are my joy, You are my comfort, You are my everything. In Jesus' name I pray. **AMEN**.