

Address the Mess – Part 3 – Avoiding the Mess Mark Rouse – mark@epicchurchbuffalo.com April 30, 2017

10 Then Jesus stood up again and said to the woman, "Where are your accusers? Didn't even one of them condemn you?" 11 "No, Lord," she said. And Jesus said, "Neither do I. Go and sin no more." – John 8:10-11

AVOIDING THE MESS

• Following Jesus isn't about <u>AVOIDING</u> something but <u>BECOMING</u> someone.

I thank my God every time I remember you. ⁴ In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy ⁵ because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, ⁶ being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. - Philippians 1:3-6

9 And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, **10** so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ. – Philippians 1:9-10

ABOUNDING IN LOVE

✓ A love for <u>GOD</u>.

And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them. - 1 John 4:16

We love because he first loved us. - 1 John 4:19

✓ A love for <u>OTHERS</u>.

Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. 12 No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us. - 1 John 4:11-12

✓ A love for <u>MYSELF</u>.

There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love. – 1 John 4:18

Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, **14** I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus. – Philippians 3:13-14