

Sermon Guide



“Longing for a Good Father”

June 11, 2023

“...having the appearance of godliness but denying it’s power...”

1 Timothy 3:1-5

- 1. Rick said, “To the degree that you think God is good, you will look to Him.” Ever since the Garden of Eden, our enemy has been trying to convince us that God isn’t good. We know that he continues that battle to this day.** In what ways are you currently struggling to believe God is good?
- 2. Rick talked about pleasure, passion and power; our problem isn’t that we desire pleasure, passion and power but instead the way we attain it.** As you think about your relationship with pleasure, passion and power, are there ways you might be intentionally or unintentionally seeking them outside of God’s good boundaries?
- 3. Rick quoted 2 Timothy 3:1-5. The Apostle Paul talks about people who “[have] the appearance of godliness, but [deny] its power.” Do you feel empowered in your godliness?** Share any ways you feel a lack of power; you’ll spend time praying about that at the end of group time. (Remember: Jesus sent the Spirit to the disciples to empower them to operate differently than they would in their flesh.)

Prayer Prompt: There are many reasons we might experience the power of godliness in seasons of our lives. Here are four common areas: 1) Perhaps you’re in a season of waiting on the Lord. Israel’s history is full of waiting for God’s timing and movement. 2) Maybe you have unconfessed sin that could be quenching the Spirit in your life; all believers have the Holy Spirit in them, but we can also hinder the full expression of His work in our lives through quenching Him. 3) Paul also tells us in 1 Corinthians 14 to earnestly desire the work of the Spirit; sometimes we fail to ask Him for more expressions of His gifts and power. 4) Ephesians 3:20 shows us that we can pray for God to do “abundantly more than all that we ask or imagine”— sometimes we forget to ask Him to do more! Spend some time listening to the Lord and then praying about anything He might reveal to you.