

## **Weekly Study of Sunday's Message.**

**Sunday September 29, 2019. "Little Things: What is that to you?"**

### **I Intro.**

Welcome to the weekly devotional that gives you some specific things to work thru from the message this past Sunday. Whether you were able to attend the worship service or not, this devotional is free-standing and you can still use it to help you dig deeper into your own spiritual walk. Take as long as you need to dive into this material and feel free to share it.

### **II Recap.**

We are in our final Sunday in our *"little things"* series. A look at those things in our life that we do have to take care of, but if we're not careful can take over and push out the more important things. There has been a lot of real life, practical, wisdom that has come from this study. We've hit how in our spiritual life, and how we live out our faith, we can elevate our own understanding of God and how we practice our faith as THE way to be, and as Jesus said, *"forget the more important"* aspects of our faith. And when we do this we often drive others away. The second Sunday, we talked about how in our daily life, if we don't take care of ourselves, develop a keen sense of self-awareness of our health, (spiritual, emotional, mental), we will find ourselves in a place where we're willing to sacrifice the more important things in our life for the *"little things"*. And then last week we highlighted our tendency to define our faith as a decision or a promise that we make, when in actuality it's a lifetime commitment to a process to become a disciple. And it's THIS that helps us in our battle against the *"little things"*, and live for what is 'better'.

All of these messages, and past devotionals are available on the website.

### **III Sunday.**

For our final Sunday Kal hit a specific question Jesus used to help Peter clarify what he wanted his future to look like. And since it was John that recorded this specific account, and wrote it down many years later, it was a question that had a long and profound impact on the life of both Peter, and John. So, read this account in **John 21:15-21**.

**What jumped out to you about this account?**

**Did you notice anything new?**

**And, how do you react to the question Jesus asked Peter; *"What is that to you?"***

The first point Kal made Sunday, was defining wisdom as learning from other people's experiences. Unless we want to live life sliding off the road into one ditch after another because it's difficult to understand events while we're in the middle of them, we can learn from other people's mistakes. This is what John was doing. And this question; *"what is that to you?"* had to have been a defining moment in John's life.

There were two truths that can be drawn from that one question.

## **1. This is about setting your future, (movement).**

The question: “*what is that to you?*” is an aligning question. And **you only need aligning if you’re moving**. “*What is that to you?*” is a question that helps us get our bearings, figure out where we are, where are we going, and ask; are we headed in the direction we want to go. This question states that you have control over the direction and future of your life. **Will it be about the important, meaningful things. Or about the lesser “*little things*”?**

“*What is that to you?*” Makes you slow down, take stock, and ask yourself where you want to go. This question is about focus. This is about direction. This is about constantly taking your bearings to see if you are headed in the direction you want to go.

**So, are you intentionally designing your life around a specific future you want for yourself? What kind of things are you aiming at, and what are you doing specifically to insure you’re heading in that direction?**

## **2. The question is also about what world will you live in.**

This question is not only about choosing, personal responsibility, but also asks;

**What culture you are going to live in?**

**What environment are you going to swim in that will set the parameters for your choices?**

Our world, culture, is designed and fed by its ability to get you to fall into its lie that all that you’re feeling and want can be satisfied by something they can offer, “*little things*”. And if you choose to spend all your time in that world, then it will be more difficult to not get suckied in by the “*little things*”, and push out the more important things. The bottom line is that Jesus is both asking and telling Peter;

**“You get to decide your future. It’s in your hands. What will you choose?”** Jesus is asking

Peter; “*What will be the test, the standard, you use to determine what it means to be reinstated, to live a life not consumed by “little things”, but to live fully a life that matters, has impact, meaning*”.

You have a world that wants you to believe that “*little things*” will satisfy all of your desires and meet all of your needs.

**What do you see some of these “little things” the world throws at us are?**

**Where are you particularly vulnerable to the lure of “little things”? (i.e. popularity, success, material things, achievement, etc.)**

## **IV Challenge.**

Wrapping up this entire series, we have to know that the world is conspiring against us in luring us to get suckied into making the “*little things*” the important things in our life. And when we do this it not only does it affect our spiritual life, but it also affects our ability to discern between what are “*little things*” and what is actually important. We have to design a life that helps us tell the difference between the two...and continually get our bearings because we all drift.

Let me encourage you, find ways, methods, tools, skills, that will help you do this.

**In closing, what are one or two things you could start doing to help you do this better?**