

Sermon Guide and Discussion Questions

Off the Boat! – Genesis 8:1-22

Sermon Outline

1. Introduction - There's no better feeling than a fresh start!
2. God gives man a fresh start (1-19)
3. God sees that man needs a new heart (20-22)
4. Conclusion - Are you born again?

Scripture References

- Psalm 13:1 - How long, O LORD? Will you forget me forever?
- Isaiah 49:15 - Can a woman forget her nursing child, and not have compassion on the son of her womb? Surely they may forget, yet I will not forget you.
- Genesis 1:28 - Be fruitful and multiply!
- 2 Corinthians 5:7 - For we walk by faith, not by sight.
- Genesis 6:5 - Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.
- Mark 7:21-23 - For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries...All these evil things come from within and defile a man.
- Ezekiel 36:26 - I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.
- John 3:7 - Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.'
- John 1:13 - Who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.
- 2 Timothy 1:9 - Who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace...
- John 6:37 - All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out.
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Reflection Questions

- Have you had experiences of feeling forgotten by God? What caused them?
- How has the Lord reminded you of His presence when feeling forgotten?
- Fill in the blank: "If only _____ was different, my life would be great!"
- Are there ways you are currently disobeying God because you're waiting for Him to answer your *what-ifs* rather than walking in *what* He has already said?
- Noah's first instinct after over a year on the ark was to worship God. (Gen 8:20) What does that teach you about the primacy of praise in our life?
- Assess this statement personally: "[God] brought me to see that the real cause of all my troubles and ills, and that of all men, was an evil and fallen nature which hated God and loved sin. My trouble was not only that I did things that were wrong, but that I myself was wrong at the very center of my being."
- How would you respond to this question: "You're not one of those born-again Christians are you?"
- Is this statement an accurate reflection of you: "Jesus Christ is my life's focus; the Holy Spirit, my life's power; walking in Spirit-filled obedience, my life's practice?"