

Vertical Pt 2

Vertical Living

Genesis 2:7 (NIV)

⁷ Then the Lord God formed a man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.

- *We are not animals, accidents, or incidents. We were created for the vertical life.*

We are created by God, for God, to live with God.

UNIVERSAL LONGING

- Every person has in their heart a longing for something outside of and greater than themselves.
- We all have uniqueness but universally identical...we long for eternity.
- This is poetry from Solomon. He's observing life. He had everything (riches, women, property, influence) but makes this discovery...

Ecclesiastes 2:10 and 17 (NIV)

10 I denied myself nothing my eyes desired; I refused my heart no pleasure. My heart took delight in all my labor, and this was the reward for all my toil.

17 So I hated life, because the work that is done under the sun was grievous to me. All of it is meaningless, a chasing after the wind.

- There was a frustration in Solomon because he realized that there existed a place in his heart that he couldn't fill. The stuff of this world couldn't fulfill him or make him whole.
- He realized there has to be more...

Ecclesiastes 3:11 and 14 (NIV)

11. He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end.

14 I know that everything God does will endure forever; nothing can be added to it and nothing taken from it. God does it so that people will fear him.

God alone fills the universal longing in the human heart.

Our hearts are restless until they find rest in Him

St. Augustine

- Eternity is Transcendence: It transcends normal or physical human experience. It exists apart from and not subject to the material universes. It's supernatural.
- Our Real Life is hidden in Christ!

Romans 1:21-23 (NIV)

²¹ For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. ²² Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools ²³ and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like a mortal human being and birds and animals and reptiles.

- **Breakdown:** When we try fill the emptiness with the natural and temporary. (Sin)
- **Breakthrough:** When we fill the emptiness with the supernatural and eternal. (Salvation)
- **Breakout:** We are supposed to be living beyond the temporary and limitations of this world. We exists as the people of His glory. Through relationship with us, people find what they can't find anywhere else. Something authentic, something real...Heaven on earth.

SINGULAR PROVISION: GLORY

1. God Assigns You Something You Can't Do Without Him

¹² Moses said to the Lord, "You have been telling me, 'Lead these people,' but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. You have said, 'I know you by name and you have found favor with me.' ¹³ If you are pleased with me, teach me your ways so I may know you and continue to find favor with you. Remember that this nation is your people." ¹⁴ The Lord replied, "My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest."

- Moses realizes that he doesn't have what it takes
- Have you come to this place yet? ("I can't", "This job is too big for me", I don't have what it takes."
- Interesting that God puts so much on you that you must have His help to do it.
- Moses looked around, as we do, and said, "Lord, these people..."

2. God's Presence is what Distinguishes You

" ¹⁴ The Lord replied, "My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest." ¹⁵ Then Moses said to him, "If your Presence does not go with us, do not send us up from here. ¹⁶ How will anyone know that you are pleased with me and with your people unless you go with us? What else will distinguish me and your people from all the other people on the face of the earth?"¹⁷ And the Lord said to Moses, "I will do the very thing you have asked, because I am pleased with you and I know you by name."

- God told him that He would go with them, but Moses was so worked up that he repeated it.

- Vs. 16 God fills the universal longing and goes with you!
- His presence must distinguish us, our marriages, our families, our businesses, and our church.
- It's God's glory that distinguishes us despite our weaknesses and limitations.
- The whole reason that we show up is to make room for God to move!

3. You Are Carriers of God's Glory

18 Then Moses said, "Now show me your glory." 19 And the Lord said, "I will cause all my goodness to pass in front of you..."

- Favor is found 122 times in the OT, 11 times in various forms here
- God isn't running short on favor, not diminished in strength, you didn't miss it, you're not late to the party. God is still doing great things!
- Get a vision for how God will reveal His favor and glory through you. Give yourself totally to seeking Him!

Ex. Show Glory Chart

Blessing is what you see. Favor is what you have. Presence is why you have it. Glory is what it is.

○ **Glory is what Emanates from God**

- Anytime you see God's fingerprints, that's glory (Sunset, sunrise, newborn baby pic, mountain scape, worship service at LifeGate,)
- As heat is to fire, wet is to water, light is to a light bulb, glory is to God

It shouts the existence of God, it's His signature, calling card (Greek: The light that comes from something else's brilliance)

Romans 11:36 (NLT)

For everything comes from him and exists by his power and is intended for his glory. All glory to him forever! Amen.

Ex. *Our solar system has a diameter of 7.5 Billion Miles. If you started today and drove 60 miles per hour, it would take you 1425 years. Our solar system is part of a galaxy called the Milky Way. If you made our galaxy like North America, our solar system is a coffee cup. Our galaxy is one of billions that are multiplying 186,000 miles per second, 6 trillion miles per year.*

○ **Glory is God's Alone**

- We don't gather for any created thing, we gather for the Creator
- How much glory belongs to an object? None! It goes to the designer.
- All human glory is an illusion (*1 Cor 4:7- What do you have that you did not receive? And if you did receive it, why do you boast as though you did not?*)

- We were created to delight in the Creator! (Some say they will have a talk with God about some things when they get to Heaven...yea, right!)
- God is glory, glory goes to Him alone, He doesn't need ours. (*Isaiah 48:11 "I will share my glory with no one."*)

Closing:

A thimble represents your glory and the ocean represents God's glory. He's trying to get us to surrender the thimble so He can give us the ocean.

- God's not sensitive like you're on His property, it's not like He doesn't want to share
- No glory belongs to the created thing and God knows that you'll be on a death march attaining your own glory until you surrender to Him.
- The battle for glory is over. God won! Every time we hold a grudge, crave attention, push ourselves to the front. We are laying claim to glory that belongs to One
- Ex. Joe DiMaggio returns from war in 1945. People shouted his name and his 4 year old son said, "See dad, everyone knows me."
- Glory is the purpose of the universe...that includes you and me.

Psalm 115:1 (NIV)

Not to us, Lord, not to us but to your name be the glory, because of your love and faithfulness.