

Alpha Week 10

Session 11

How Can I Make the Most of the Rest of My Life?

1. Do you believe you will be attending Beta which starts next Tuesday at 6:30?
2. “If a good friend whom you haven’t seen since you started Alpha asked you what you’ve been doing on Tuesday nights for the past 10 (*or fewer*) weeks, and then asked you how you have been affected by it, what would you tell them?”
3. Jesus told us we can trust God in every circumstance as our Provider. Really? How have you seen God as Provider through these weeks of Alpha? **Matthew 6:25-34 (p.900)**
4. Go to the Scriptures concerning the Parable of the Sower (**Mark 4:1-20(p.930)**, (**Matthew 13:1-23(p.907)**) or **Luke 8:1-15(p.958)**) and ask their thoughts concerning Jesus’ declaration.
 - Does this concern you going forward?
 - Which would you like to be the description of your life? Why?
 - What will need to become the practice of your life so that your heart is more and more a rich fertile soil that brings Spirit empowering fruitfulness (Galatians 5:22-23)?
5. The parable of the Rich Fool. **Luke 12:13-21**. Does this mean you shouldn’t invest for the future?
6. Frank talked about life in Christ being “organic growth,” (**Eph. 3:17-19 (p.1080)**); **Col. 1:10 (p.1086)**. What does that communicate in terms of living a victorious abundant life (**John 10:10b (p.993)**)?
7. Below are two points that the Lord may choose to use at your table to start some discussion. We may have these on the tables for our guests to take home with them.

Remember and Rehearse (R & R) by Ken Boa

- ❖ There is nothing we can do to earn God's favor. All of our efforts before God fall short of His character and righteousness.
- ❖ Just as none of our actions will make God love us more, it is equally true that there is nothing that we can think say, or do that will make God love us less than He does.
- ❖ Growth in the Spirit is not accomplished by our own attempts to create meaning and purpose. Our responsibility is to walk in the power of the Spirit and not in dependence on our own efforts.
- ❖ Our focus should not be deeds and actions, but on relationship; not on a product, but a person.

Thoughts on this correlating quote from Ken Boa, Nov 2004, Reflections

“The world defines who we are by what we do, but the Word (of God) centers on who we are in Christ and tells us to express that new identity in what we do. Being and doing are interrelated, but the Biblical order is critical: what we do should flow out of who we are, not the other way around. Otherwise, our worth and identity are determined by achievements and accomplishments and when we stop performing, we cease to be valuable.”

8. Ephesians 2: 8-10(p.1079): Is it clearer now that the Bible teaches, I cannot earn God's acceptance?

9. CLOSING COMMENTS: Frank connected God “looking for” Adam after he had sinned and asking, “Adam, where are you?” with the statement that God has come looking for us asking the same question. So, how would you answer that question if God were (and He is) calling/looking for you? God knows where you are. *Do you?* Do you think that's where you should be? Why? Why not?