

“Let’s Go There”: An Honest Journey Into Advent | Wk 5

12/13/2020 | A Seattle Church: [@ASeattleChurch](#)

“Our Romances” by [Pastor Tyler Gorsline](#)

SERMON NOTES:

Pastor Tyler Asked us to consider:

1. That all families are complicated, which is demonstrated by 5 truths:
 - a. Your parents didn’t know what they were doing
 - b. We often don't know where we end, and our parents begin
 - c. God made you specifically, intentionally, and purposefully from your family
 - d. We all have a lot of family baggage to unpack
 - e. Jesus understands your family struggle more than anyone you can ever imagine
2. Yet, "You are an intentional, irrepeatable miracle of God" -Pastor/Theologian, Jeff Keuss
3. To discern how Jesus wants to “arrive” (advent) again in your family life and story

Looking closely at Christ’s own family:

- Jesus was looked down upon by his community for his family lineage and origin story
- The scriptures emphasize the complexity of his heritage and its characters in Matthew 1
- His own family pushed back against his ministry, “wanting to see him” when crowds had gathered around him (Luke 8:19-21) and thinking he was crazy (Mark 3:20-21)

Impact/Key Points (Invitations from Christ):

- Jesus redefines family as “those who hear God’s word & put it in to practice” (Luke 8:21)
- Jesus invites us all in to his family, whether you have a good one, a bad one, or no family
- Jesus requires us to define self distinctly as individual followers of God, apart from fam
- Jesus calls us **OUT** from our family of origin (Luke 8:19-21)
- Jesus invites us **IN**ward (as he did in healing the legion of demons/our family demons)
- Jesus sends us **BACK** to be light in our families, though can’t save them (Luke 8:26-39)
- Jesus breeds **FRUIT** thru our faith in his resurrection power in our families (Luke 8:40-56)

REFLECTION QUESTIONS (Small Group & Personal):

WARM-UP: “Together” (use one or none)

1. How was your week; what was hard, what was good?
2. Share a funny family story.

WORD: “Truth”

Leader: Questions below should allow for quick responses, evident by close reading of the text. Choose to use some or all of them (pending pace), as reading of the passage(s) will answer them as well.

- **Sermon Recap (if helpful):** Pastor Tyler challenged us to distinguish our identities as coming from our families of origin, yet differentiated in Christ. This invited us to consider where we have inherited stories and curses, generational sin, blessings and giftings, and identity from those who we came from. Being the case, we looked at three stories from Luke 8 that call us to step OUT from our families to follow Jesus wherever He may lead us. To look inward with Christ and let Him free us from any captivity we have inherited. To go BACK out to our families to be a light to them as a witness of the amazing work Christ has done. To experience the FRUIT Christ brings as He resurrects our families.

Read One of these and lead your group in **SOAP**
Luke 8:19-21, Luke 8:26-39, Luke 8:40-56

Introduce SOAP to your group, then read the text and lead them through.

S- Scripture: Read the text

O- Observations: What stood out, what makes you curious, what questions do you have

A- Application: How does it or a part of this scripture speak to your life? What are the implications? Where do I relate? Where do I find myself? What is convicting?

P- Prayer: Pray the text in your own words, pray about resonated with you, pray regarding your application...

SUPPLEMENTARY STUDY MATERIAL

1. Read Luke 12:49-53 and consider how seriously Jesus paints the picture of distinguishing and differentiating our first allegiance to God over and above our family relationships. Look through the 14 generations and 46 names in the 2000 years of Jesus' genealogy in Matthew 1. Consider the stories of complex people in Jesus' heritage. Look up names you don't recognize and google search their bios. What does it mean to you that God would include complex people in Jesus' family? Where is your family not “normal” or set-up for you to easily follow God? How can Jesus' heritage help you to find good company in what He had to overcome? In your family struggles, how do you keep in perspective that “Jesus is in your heart, but your family is in your bones?” If you want to go even deeper in your study of families and faith, consider checking out the book “Families at the Crossroads” by Rodney Clapp.

APPLICATION: “Life”:

1. Where do you find yourself in these stories? What is your next step?
2. How is Jesus calling you to come OUT, go back IN, and to bear FRUIT in your family?

PRAYER “Way”

1. Pray about what came up from the scripture you chose.
2. Do you have any other specific prayer requests?

COMMUNION “Together”

Lead your group in communion in a way that feels right.

- If needed, 1 Corinthians 11:23-27
 - **23** ...that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, **24** and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, “This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” **25** In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.” **26** For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

ANNOUNCEMENTS at ASC:

1. Read our **ASC End-Of-Year Report** [HERE](#) to see how God has moved in and through our church in the past year!
2. **Awesome:** ASC has begun giving away 10% of all donations we receive to help support church-planting, biblical justice, and other non-profits serving our city & world!
3. Consider supporting ASC’s Year-End, “**Big-Give Goal**” to raise \$60,000 [HERE](#) . We are half way there! You can do so via one-time or recurring gifts, donating appreciated stock, business matching programs, or covering your Subsplash fees for the gifts you are already giving.
4. **Mark Your Calendars:**
 - a. **Dec 16: Prayer Night @ Collective Seattle.** Limited Space. Sign up in newsletter
 - b. **Dec 24: Christmas Eve Services @ Collective Seattle:** Limited Space, there will be a 4pm and 6pm in-person service, and a 5pm online service on FB + YouTube
5. **All-Church Prayer Call** on Wednesday’s from 1230-1pm each week. 1-253-215-8782, 86546382360#
6. **Invite a Friend** to join us online next week as we look at “Our Families” in Wk 5 of our “Let’s Go There: An Honest Journey into Advent” series.

7. **Share testimony** of how God is moving in your life/your group in this season? **HERE**
8. How can we **come alongside you** in more specific ways as a church? **Let us know.**
9. Have you been **baptized?** If that is your next step in repentance and faith, **let us know.**