Practically Disciples: The Letter of James | Wk 14 | 11/8/2020

A Seattle Church: @ASeattleChurch | Pastor Tyler Gorsline

WARM-UP: "Together"

- 1. What was a favorite TV show or book (series) from your childhood?
- 2. Share about a time when someone helped you out of a dire situation.

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 zeroed in on the last two verses of James letter to the scattered church. Specifically, he asked us to consider our commitment to the call to "come home from wandering" and to be people "who bring one another back." Have we been wandering? Has our whole heart and attention been on the election or something else that has served as a functional-savior leading us to do to "wander from the (way of) truth?"(5:19) In the Hebrew mind, truth was something one could never separate from action. It was always a belief and choices. Doctrine and moral living. Theology and praxis. Tyler asked us to consider if we believe the right things about God but don't live them, or vice versa. Likewise, Verse 20 asked us to consider the blessed impact of bringing back "adedelphoi" (brothers and sisters) to God. To help others "be saved from death" by "covering over a multitude of sins" through gathering them from their wandering and helping them re-center on Christ. Likewise, Tyler challenged us to consider how we are called to do this for non-believers who do not yet know the good news of Jesus in their own lives. Ultimately Tyler framed this as a call to 1) repent and turn back from our wandering 2) reframe our faith by living it in word and deed 3) restore (and be restored) by calling fellow believers to come home to Jesus 4) regenerate (evangelize) by "going in to all the world to make disciples of Jesus by showing and telling people their is new life available to them in Christ.

Read James 5:19-20

- a. Are you prone to "wander from the way of truth?"
- b. How do you see this happening in your life of faith? In truth or in the way you act?

SUPPLEMENTARY STUDY MATERIAL

1. Read Ezekiel 3:18, 2 Thessalonians 3:15, Acts 20: 30-32. Ask how seriously God desires for us to participate in the redemption of others. Read the findings of this study and ask if you are part of the 47% of Christian millenials (or other generations) who think it is wrong to share your faith? Is it because of your Biblical principle on this or your concern at how others will respond to your message? Do you agree that Jesus' call to "seek and save the lost" is essential to following Jesus? Read Psalm 32:1 and Matthew 28:18-20 and consider the potential impacts and aspects of God's Great Commission for all disciples. Can you identify them as active in your life? How? Or Why Not? Read John

3:16-17 and consider what Jesus desires and why? Do you care for the people in your life with the same "desire" Christ has for you.

APPLICATION: "Life":

- 1. Is there a truth you believe that lacks action? How do you feel about that? How can you take steps to walk out that truth?
- 2. How do you feel about evangelism? What gets in the way of it in your life?
- 3. Where are you on your discipleship journey with God? As a whole or with specific areas of your life do you need to repent, reframe your faith into action, be restored or help others into restoration, or actively look for and step into areas of evangelism?

PRAYER "Way"

- 1. What area of response do you need prayer for?
- 2. Do you have a specific prayer request?

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. **Sign up for our ASC Worship + Prayer Night on Nov 11th at 6PM at Collective.** First 30 who register will be able to join us for this socially-distanced time together.
- 2. Don't Miss it! New Series "Let's Go There: An Honest Journey into Advent" Starts Next Sunday. Share on your social network or friends God puts on your heart.
- 3. LAST CALL: All-Church Check-In Survey. Take it Here before Nov 9th at noon
- 4. Share testimony of how God is moving in your life/your group in this season? HERE
- 5. Have you been baptized? If that is your next step in repentance and faith, let us know.
- 6. How can we come alongside you in more specific ways as a church? Let us know.

- 7. All-Church Prayer Call on Wednesday's from 1230-1pm each week. 1-253-215-8782, 86546382360#
- 8. Sign up for ASC Newsletter Weekly Updates <u>HERE</u>.