January 7th, 2024 411: Week 1- Life

This series will encourage you to do hopefully One of Two things...

- 1.) Be challenged to Read through the Bible this year
- 2.) Use this series as an Aerial Photograph to gain a big picture perspective of the Bible

We are not going to go verse by verse, chapter by chapter, or even book by book...but I want to introduce you to the Major Themes, Characters, and Mission of the Bible while it focuses us on Jesus Christ!

I want to INTRODUCE us to a new word each week that will be a Biblical theme by which the Gospel is hung, and the foundation of Christianity is built!

Today the word is "LIFE".

In the beginning, God created EVERYTHING (the heavens and the earth). <u>And that's</u> really important because the Creator has the Rights of Ownership!

The Creator always has the Rights of Ownership, and God owns everything that was made! Here's what that means!

I. You are not an Accident! Your Life is not an Accident.

What I believe we'll discover is your LIFE is a trust given to you from God. You are not worthless or aimless; God chose to bring you into being. He did it on Purpose, and He has a purpose for you.

II. If we don't know the Creator, then we'll never understand Ourselves! If people believe that they are meaningless accidents, human life becomes cheap.

But the Bible explains it this way: <u>1.) We have been made in HIS image</u> <u>2.) We are absolutely dependent on Him</u>

<u>III. The GIFTS of Life</u> In the opening chapters of the Bible, God reveals 4 wonderful gifts that make LIFE full and meaningful.

A. <u>A Presence</u> <u>Genesis 3:8 (NIV)</u> <u>Then the man and his wife *heard the sound* of the Lord God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day...</u>

B. <u>A Place</u> <u>Genesis 2:8 (NIV)</u>

Now the Lord God had planted a GARDEN in the east, in Eden; and there he put the man he had formed.

C. <u>A Purpose</u>

We are His People, He gives us a Purpose!

D. <u>A Partner</u>

IV. Understand the TRUTH!

Knowing who God is, what He has said about you, what He's done for you, should give you PAUSE to realize which voice you need to listen to most.