

# It's Real!

John 8:30-32

Mention marriage... It's real

Have you ever had this thought? UGH

Is there any greater emoji than the one that populates when you type in UGH

This week I surprised Lex with a trip to Fort Worth to see her favorite man... I mean comedian... her favorite comedian on the planet... John Crist... We set out for our trip in the late hours of Thursday after work... It was going to be romantic, it was going to be beautiful, it was going to be everything date dreams are made of.... until..... Lex got sick....

Why is it that every time in life it feels like its getting yay!

It turns ugh...

Have you noticed that... How quickly life can go from YAY!

to ugh!

And its easy to live right in the YAY...

But how many of you know its hard to live right in the UGH...

Dreams are yay..

Doubts are ugh..

Moments of clarity are yay..

Moments of challenge are ugh...

What is interesting is that in marriage you stand at an altar before men and women and God and you say

in sickness and in health

in good times and in bad

in riches and in poverty

And at the altar it is easy to celebrate the beauty of marriage

But of the highway, in the dark, it is hard to continue in the beauty of that marriage...

Because the altar is YAY...

Off the highway is UGH...

And the challenge really isn't the circumstance... The challenge is that you have to contend against a perspective.... Will I let what I am currently experiencing change what God says is real?

Which leads us into the text today... In the longest argument Jesus has, what is challenged is the perspective He offers...

They test the validity of Jesus claims in John 8 with different perspectives

When the enemy of faith shows up, it isn't with a pitchfork, it is with a perspective....

Bring in some examples

- parents death God is evil
- friends slander that isn't God
- inward thought... it's always going to be this way... give up...
- RESENTMENT
  - YOU CAN'T TRUST IT'S REAL

Hinge Verse in John 8:31.. Some believe.. Jesus says if you abide or continue

Jesus knows the enemy is going to attack you at the place of your belief.

At the place of your confession..

Our problem is a confession is easy

BUT continuing is challenging

House Hunting metaphor

Lets pull on the thread of what in the world do some people think when they build a house... Layouts and floor plans...

Play on the fact that isn't it nice wanting to buy houses in 2026 with interest rates and inflation etc

Bring it home with don't fill pity on us though... God gave us a promise at the beginning of this year and He has given us a word... So a door has opened up that is making a potential move possible, but I know that we are supposed to buy the house the Lord opens the door too... And confessing that is yay! Walking through the wrong house over and over is UGH... Thinking its the right house to get a bad report on the reality of buying it is an UGH... And so what happens.....

SETTLE FOR LESS!!!!!!

No I am going to CONTEND TO CONTINUE!

Jesus says if you abide you are a true disciple

A REAL MARRIAGE ISN'T AT THE PROCLAMATION... IF IT WAS HOLLYWOOD WOULD BE LEADING IN MARRIAGE STATS

A REAL MARRIAGE IS PROVEN WHEN IT REALLY ENDURES THROUGH THE UGH'S AND CONTINUES LOVE AND LOYALTY ARE PROCLAIMED IN THE YAY

THEY ARE PROVEN IN THE UGH

I can proclaim something in the yay

But it is proven in the ugh

Many people will settle for the image of disciple instead of the intimacy of a disciple

Jesus says then you will know and be free

Truthful perspective - if you continue, then you will know and find freedom

Twisted perspective - If God does xyz, then you will continue

- enemy moves line
- Deception = change your perspective
- Delivered = agree with God's perspective

How do we continue?

Set up 2 John Cross Reference... Make sure to set up the concept of abide and love and Jesus already doing the if, then....

1. Watch Out
  - a. 2 John 4-7

b. We have been hospitable far too long to a message that is hostile towards our faith. The world says be open minded, but Jesus says be singular minded.... Tolerance vs love?

i. Be careful little eyes

ii. Neeza Powers

c. There is a Spirit of the antiChrist in the Earth that would love to deceive you to drift instead of draw near. MANY TEACHERS.. Lean in here. Go after false prophets here.. Mention Keenans point...

i. Does the idea make you desire to surrender more to Jesus truth & trust his love? Or Does the idea make you desire Jesus surrenders more to your truth & agrees with your perception of love?

2. Watch in

a. 2 John 8

b. Every perspective pulls on an inward passion

i. Fish Bait // not paranoia protection of love

c. Remind of panic attacks: I don't watch myself because I am paranoid about my salvation. I watch myself because I know that the question isn't is God able, but will I abide?

d.

3. Watch God

a. build out this point for someone

i. if, then is the battle..

1. If you do as I commanded you enjoy the garden

a. If you disobey God then you get to be God

i. If you endure, abide, continue, then you will know and find freedom

1. If God does xyz then you can trust Him

a. 2 John 8 says that we may receive a full reward

b. The word for work is to work be busy, be engaged in, toil

i. Opposite of idleness or laziness

ii. John 8 says true disciples do this

iii. James says 2:26 says faith without works is dead

iv. So faith works while it waits for it to work

v. Why does faith work?

vi. That reward

vii. Hebrews 11:6 says that faith has to believe there is a reward

viii. Now go back to me to the father of our faith

Abraham

- ix. Abraham has a promise... And he has to contend against the reality that what was promised is not coming to pass
- x. But he keeps hosting the right word... Everytime the right word shows up he hosts the right word...
- xi. Genesis 21:1
- xii. And then God visits Sarah like He said He would and He does for sarah what He promised He would do...
- xiii. Abraham didn't continued past biology, continued past his failure, continued in the word in patience, continued in the word through the yays and the ughs....
- xiv. "He did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith... being fully convinced that what He had promised He was also able to perform." Romans 4:20-21
- xv. I AM FULLY CONVINCED... Prophecy over the church

LIVE PROMISE INFORMED