

Tuesday, March 21st Devo

Most of you know by now about Genesis 1, the passage of scripture that discusses our creation and the beginning of our existence. There are multiple key parts of this passage that should be understood by every follower of Jesus. Potentially the most important is understanding that once God stepped back and viewed His creation He thought that it was good. Genesis 1:31 says this, "God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning— the sixth day." This verse along with the rest of Genesis 1 tell us that God created us to be in relationship with Him. This relationship was then lived out by Adam and Eve, scripture tells us that God walked in the garden amongst them. This means that when God created man, He created us as Holy, so Holy in fact, that mankind could be in the presence of God. God cannot be around sin because it is against His nature, God is perfect and cannot be around sin. The sin that took place in the garden, separated mankind from God. Our sins remove the Holiness that our lives were intended to have. Why does this matter? The proper understanding of the weight of our sin helps us understand the enormous need for a savior, the need we have to be made Holy again. This was the reason and purpose behind Jesus' mission to come to earth and save us from our sins.

Read: John 14:1-7 (MSG) "Don't let this rattle you. You trust God, don't you? Trust me. There is plenty of room for you in my Father's home. If that weren't so, would I have told you that I'm on my way to get a room ready for you? And if I'm on my way to get your room ready, I'll come back and get you so you can live where I live. And you already know the road I'm taking." Thomas said, "Master, we have no idea where you're going. How do you expect us to know the road?" Jesus

said, "I am the Road, also the Truth, also the Life. No one gets to the Father apart from me. If you really knew me, you would know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him. You've even seen him!"

Reflect: We all have a desire to do or be something. You might be working really hard to be a D-1 athlete, governor's scholar, the next billionaire, a high school or college graduate, we all have different desires and goals for our own life. The problem with Holiness is that we cannot achieve it on our own. There is no good deed, other religion, amount of money, amount of followers that can remove your sin problem and make you Holy in the eyes of God. The only one who can make you Holy again is Jesus. Spend a few moments and write down the answers to these questions: Have you given your life to Jesus? If no, explain what or why you have not made a decision to follow Jesus. If yes, rate the overall level of your continued commitment to Christ on a scale of 1 to 10. 1 being struggling to follow through and 10 being nearly perfect.

Reflect: For those of you that haven't decided to follow Jesus, spend a minute and think about how your life would look different with Christ being at the center, write down what that life would look like. For those that do follow Jesus, spend a minute to reflect on the areas of your life you need to turn away from and turn back towards Jesus, write these down and make a plan to ask someone for help.