Dale Marshfield Sermon Notes

Sunday Morning Service 11/20/2022

Rx for a Changed Life

Galatians 6:11-18

When God is Changing Our Lives…

* We put \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in their place. (6:12-13)
  + Any ritual, even those biblically prescribed, can be anti-transformational.
  + Biblically prescribed or aligned rituals are opportunities to engage the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* We see life from the vantage point of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (6:13-14)
  + At the Cross we realize everything depends on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
  + At the Cross our \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ change. (6:14)
  + At the Cross our \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ change. (6:14)
* Our lives are characterized by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ expressing itself through \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (6:15, 5:6)

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Debrief Plan: 11/20/2022

**Icebreakers**:

1. Think of a time in your life when you experienced a major change. What prompted the change? How did it change you? Are you happy about the change or sad?
2. What is a ritual that you enjoy and why? (These rituals can be “religious” ones, holiday rituals, “weekend” rituals, sports rituals, “vacation” rituals, etc.)

**Sermon Summary**: When God is changing our lives, we engage in particular rituals, see life from a new Cross-centered perspective, and seek to live out our faith by expressing love.

**Discussion Questions**:

1. How do you feel about using the term “rituals” to describe the practices we engage in to grow spiritually? Are there other words we could use to describe them?
2. Identify some of the “rituals” in the contemporary evangelical church. Once you have a list, discuss how each one can hinder life change or be an opportunity to engage the Spirit of God.
3. In Galatians, Paul is not only concerned with how people become Christians (justification by faith) but how they reach the goal of maturity in Christ (Gal. 3:3). If Christian growth depends completely on the work of Christ through the Spirit, what part do we have in the process?
4. What did Paul mean when he said he was crucified to the world? How do we experience that?
5. How does an understanding of the First Century “shame and honor” value change the way we understand Paul’s statement that he will only boast in the Cross? How does this relate to the way we live our lives?
6. How is it possible that the entire Christian life can be summed up as faith expressing itself through love? How might that idea simplify our Christian experience, church life, and approach to the lost?