

CCC Sermon Notes

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As “postmodern” people... We connect to truth by experience more easily than by logical arguments. We tend to act more as a community rather than as individuals. We value authenticity over theory. We understand struggle more than naïve certainty. We resist definition - so if you’re ignoring these slides already, at least I got one right. We are in process... and we will be different in ten or twenty years.

Matthew 22:35-40

One of the Pharisees, an expert in the law, tested Jesus with this question: “Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the law?” Jesus replied: “ ‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. “And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”

Where We’re Going Today:

1. How people are brought into God’s kingdom.
2. Ways to show authentic love to hurting people.
3. Thresholds to be crossed on the way.

Mark 4:26-29

Jesus said, “This is what the kingdom of heaven is like. A man scatters seed on the ground. Night and day, whether he sleeps or gets up, the seed sprouts and grows, though he does not know how. All by itself the soil produces grain – first the stalk, then the head, then the full kernel in the head. As soon as the grain is ripe, he puts the sickle to it, because the harvest has come.”

The path to faith is:

1. Mysterious
2. Organic

So how did Jesus interact with the mysterious, organic process of people’s faith?

1. Traitors & “sinners”

Matthew 9:9-13

2. A fearful dad & a sick woman

Luke 8:40-50

3. An untouchable

Mark 1:40-42

4. A woman of loose morality

John 4:4-18

5 Thresholds

1. Trusting a Christian
2. Becoming Curious
3. Opening Up to Change
4. Seeking After God
5. Entering the Kingdom