



Series: Unexpected Messiah

Passage Mathew 14

Title: Finding Purpose in My Life

Speaker: Pastor David Menard – 11/1/2020

Discussion Starter –Do you think that John the Baptist understood that he was the prophet predicted in Isaiah 40:3? If so, why did John send his disciples to question Jesus (See Matthew 11:2-6)? Do you think it would have been easier or more difficult for John to complete his mission if he understood the entirety of God’s plan for him?

God is at Work and Evil is at Work (Matthew 14:1-12)

- Which of the four Herod’s in the bible is this one who has John the Baptist killed? Why was Herod troubled by his granting of Herodias’ daughter’s wish? Read Mark 6:17-20. What addition key insights do we see revealed about Herod and John the Baptist’s relationship?
- Why do you think God created humankind? (Read Isaiah 43:7) What insights do we gain on this subject of why we were created? How do see yourself fulfilling this role?
- Do you think it would be comforting to fully know the specific plans that God has for our lives? Why or why not? Why do you think God does not operate in this way?
- What do we know about the plans God has for our lives? What conclusion can we draw from Jeremiah 29:11? (See also Deuteronomy 31:8). Is it comforting to know that we do not have to completely understand God’s mission to follow Him effectively?
- How do we see God at work and evil at work in this story of John the Baptist? What is the only thing necessary for evil to triumph according to Edmund Burke? Why is this important?

Does Your Life Have Purpose? (Matthew 14:13-21)

- What are some of the key elements we see Jesus showing His disciples about having a life with purpose in the story of the feeding of the five thousand?
- How can we apply this lesson in our own lives?
- What does it mean to have our purpose in life being found in serving Jesus? Why is this so important? What are some of the things that get in the way of living a life devoted to serving Jesus?
- Serving Jesus is not complex. What is the easiest thing we can do to start serving Jesus?
- What spiritual or natural gifts and resources has God given to you? What do you see as God’s plan for you to use them to serve others?