

TRENDING NOW - COHABITATION

OPEN

Discuss a time when you imitated someone, maybe as a child. Why did you want to imitate them?

REFLECT

What is does the world base its wisdom on? What defines cultural values?

Read Ephesians 5

What did you learn from this sermon?

What stood out to you from this portion of Scripture?

Where has our culture become like that of Ephesus?

Where does happiness come from?

How is happiness different than joy?

What happens when a person makes happiness the ultimate commitment?

When a culture worships at the altar of self and happiness, what ways can we speak into it?

Why is commitment to God more important than commitment to self?

What does Paul mean by ‘deceive you with empty words’?

What does it mean to imitate God?

What is the result of living for self (Ephesians 5:5-6)?

What does Paul say is the way to overcome a self-indulgent life (Ephesians 5:15-21)?

How did this sermon challenge you?

How do Scriptures such as **2 Timothy 2; Proverbs 3:13-18; Proverbs 16:20; Psalm 1:1-6; Psalm 37:4-13; Ecclesiastes 2:1-17** challenge believers to grow in their faith?

APPLY

How do these passages challenge you to live differently?

John mentioned a tweet from Channing Tatum and Jenna Dewan regarding their divorce and that nothing has changed their love and that they are still a family. Does this make sense? How do so many believe that this is logical?

John mentioned the woman who said she was single and polyamorous. What is significant is how she 'defined words'. Discuss how words have significance and why changing them leads to chaos. She said that she is committed to poly fidelity.

How has wanting an 'easy out' affected her decision making?

How will you decide to make the right choice, repeatedly, even when its costly?

MEMORIZE

Job 5:17 "Blessed is the one whom God corrects; so, do not despise the discipline of the Almighty.

PRAY

That God would give you a heart of wisdom and to not be deceived by the empty words of culture and its pursuit of worldly happiness. To trust God's ways, even when on the surface it doesn't make sense.

NEXT STEPS: Here at FCC we seek to be a transforming community that makes disciples who make disciples and shows compassion to others. As disciples, we are called to be on mission / change agents who follow God's rescuing purposes for our community and the world.

If you are not involved, here are a few ways to help you do that:

1. Grow in community by getting plugged in to our Sunday Educational classes, join a Small Group, or other periodic events here at FCC.
2. Serve! We all have a responsibility and gifting to be used for others – Ephesians 4. You have gifts, talents, and abilities that need to be used for God's glory. To figure out what place might be best for you, visit <http://myfcc.church/serve/volunteer-opportunities/>
3. Check out our Belong class. Here you can learn all about FCC, how to get connected, and how you can partner with us in God's plan for this world!