

Disappointment – Week 3 – Pastor Rob Warnell – 9-18-22

1. When have you been disappointed by someone else's sin?
2. When have you been disappointed by someone else's idiosyncrasies?
3. What is your typical response when someone disappoints you?

Ephesians 4:2 - Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.

4. Sometimes we are disappointed because of others sin and sometimes we are disappointed because of their idiosyncrasies. How are these two different and how might that influence our response?
5. What is the hardest part of this verse for you when someone disappoints you?

Ephesians 4:32 - Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

5. The beginning of reconciliation is forgiveness. Why is it hard to forgive someone who has disappointed you?
6. What helps you to forgive when others disappoint you?
7. How does forgiveness relate to reconciliation?

Luke 15:1-2 - Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus. ² But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them."

6. Jesus was regularly criticized for spending time showing love to sinners, and outcasts in society. (People who were a disappointment to religious leaders and society, and had lived lifestyles of disobeying God.) What stands out to you about that?
7. How might that influence us when others disappoint us?

Read Luke 15:11-30

8. What stands out to you in this story?
9. Why was Jesus telling this story?
10. Why do you think that Jesus cares so much about those who are 'lost', who have chosen to live lives of sin?
11. Disappointment often cuts off relationship. (The prodigal son cut off his relationship with the father, the older brother cut off his relationship with his younger brother). When has disappointment caused broken relationship in your life?
12. The Father's response to the prodigal son was Wanting him to return, Waiting and Watching for him, and Welcoming him back. Which of these three responses (Wanting, Waiting/Watching, Welcoming) is most difficult for you?
13. The older brother's response to his younger brother was Disgust in his brother, to Distance himself from him, and Disillusionment with the family dynamic. Which of these three responses is your tendency when someone disappoints you?
14. How can you combat against becoming disgusted, distanced and disillusioned with others?

Luke 19:10 - For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."

Mark 2:17 - On hearing this, Jesus said to them, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners."

15. How does knowing Jesus' mission help us to understand His desire to spend time with those who had disappointed Him and so many others?

John 8:12 - When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

Matthew 5:14-16 - "You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

16. Jesus' goal was to seek and save the lost. (Luke 19:10). He accomplishes this by being a light for people to follow. He also says that we are the light. How should being the light impact our response when others disappoint us?
17. Whom do you need to be a light to? Who do you know that is spiritually lost?
18. How can you be a light to those who disappoint you?
19. What does wanting, waiting and welcoming look like in your situation?
20. How can we pray for you today?