

This Is Your Mission, Should You Choose To Accept It

Sermon Take Home

Connecting with His Church

1. Pastor Randy shared the concept of “as is” tags as they apply to people. What would be some nice “as is” tags to have as a heads up with regard to other people?
2. If you had an “as is” tag, what would it say?

Read Mark 12:1-12.

3. Reflect on what life might have been like for the paralytic. Share your thoughts out loud. What were his hopes, dreams, and frustrations? What might he have faced that disabled people don't face? How was his life significantly different from what you are experiencing now?
4. What makes a great friendship?
5. Who is a great friend to you now? Why?
6. How was friendship with the paralytic challenging for his friends?
7. How was friendship with them challenging for the paralytic?

Read Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 as it talks about the benefits of friendship.

8. What benefits did the paralytic ultimately receive from the friendship? What benefits did his friends receive?
9. Share some ways that you believe our society is growing increasingly disconnected. For instance, the average teenager now consumes nine hours of media, (computer, television, listening to music on the ipod) a day. What do you think the effect of this will be?
10. What do you think of Pastor Randy's statement, “No one grows spiritually by themselves?” How is it true that all real friendship

between Christ followers will result in spiritual growth?

11. How have we replaced true friendship with friendliness?

Read Galatians 5:13.

12. Share about a time you served someone. What were the feelings and emotions associated with that?

Read John 13:1-8.

13. Why is it often easier to serve than to be served? Share a time when someone served you. What were the feelings and emotions associated with that?

14. In what ways does true friendship only happen intentionally?

15. Are you in a situation where people know you and you know them?

16. Are you part of a group that meets with the purpose of spiritual development in mind?

17. If you choose to move towards having someone who knows all about you, who would you choose?