

Acts 25:23-26:24
Sermon Notes
November 11, 2018

1. Real life is found by embracing the hope of the resurrection

"PTSD results when a person has their deluded belief that they're going to live forever stripped away from them."

Alex Lickerman, MD, Psychology Today

1 Corinthians 15:14-19 ESV

14 And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain. 15 We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified about God that he raised Christ, whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. 16 For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised. 17 And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. 18 Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. 19 If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied.

John 11:25 ESV

25 Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live,

1 John 5:11-12 ESV

11 And this is the testimony, that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. 12 Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

2. Real life is found by living in the present

Acts 13:38-39 ESV

38 Let it be known to you therefore, brothers, that through this man forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you, 39 and by him everyone who believes is freed from everything from which you could not be freed by the law of Moses.

2 Corinthians 5:17 ESV

17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

"The future is, of all things, the thing least like eternity ... The past is frozen and no longer flows ... The present is all lit up with eternal rays. For the present is the point at which time touches eternity."

C.S. Lewis, The Screwtape Letters

Matthew 6:34 ESV

34 "Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.

Lamentations 3:22-23 ESV

22 The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; 23 they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

“Christians who worry believe God can redeem them, break the shackles of Satan, take them from hell to heaven, put them into His kingdom, and give them eternal life, but just don't think He can get them through the next couple of days.”

John MacArthur

Sin is in the past

Worry is in the future

God is in the present

3. Real life is found by living for others

Matthew 3:8 ESV

8 Bear fruit in keeping with repentance.

Exhortations [to produce fruit] are good news because the way of obedience is the way of joy. There is more lasting joy in doing what God says (no matter how hard) than in all the ways of sin.

John Piper

Mark 10:45 NLT

45 For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many.

Mark 8:35 NLT

35 If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake and for the sake of the Good News, you will save it.

“The greatest need in modern civilization is the development of communities - true communities where the heart of God is home, where the humble and wise learn to shepherd those on the path behind them, where trusting strugglers lock arms with others as together they journey on.”

Larry Crabb