

Summer At First Church - Week 4 - The Good Life

Matthew 6:9-13

Also: 1 Peter 1:1, 2:11-12; Exodus 16:2-3; Mark 10:17-27; Numbers 6:24-26

Discussion Questions

1. What has challenged you, changed you or confused you from this week's sermon or the Scriptures in it?
2. Augustine of Hippo said of God, "Our hearts are restless until they find rest in you."
 - o Do you hear truth in that statement? Why or why not?
 - o How do you see evidence of that (either for or against) in your own life? In culture around us?
3. How do you see yourself or others striving for "the good life"?
4. What are the "longings underneath the longings"? For instance, multiple people may appear to have money as an idol. But for some, the thing underneath it that they long for is actually security. For others money may be at the surface but below is a craving for attention and affirmation. Or perhaps a desire for control and power. The list goes on and on.
 - o Take a few moments, quiet yourself, and think through some of these questions:
 - Are you covetous?
 - Are you busy and striving?
 - Are you restless?
 - Do you want more?
 - Do you lust after what isn't yours
 - Are you jealous?
 - Do you get angry? Why?
 - o If you answered yes to any of those (or maybe the Spirit threw in other questions!), is there something deeper behind it?
 - Ask yourself "Why do I _____?" (fill in the blank).
 - Remember, none of these questions are to condemn you. If you sense condemnation, that is from the enemy. Jesus loves you and wants to draw you to Himself, away from your sin. He's not afraid to reach out to you right where you are.
 - o Is there a way that you can connect Jesus' prayer for provision, "give us today our daily bread" to this deeper need/desire?
 - If you can't see a way, ask Him for help!

Thank you Jesus, that you not only provide for all of our daily needs, but also our deepest needs!