

8/1/21

att. 41

FBB

Sermon – Stop Waiting (Simplicity in Christ – Week 2)

Scripture – Ephesians 5:14-17, Eccl 9:9-10

Main Message – Procrastination is a very real problem to living a simple life. Now is the time to do!

Simplifying our lives will never happen if we fail in one simple thing – **doing!** Very few things are accomplished by not doing. When we don't do something, the stuff can stack up. More stuff that needs to be done, complicates our thoughts, keeps us up at night, and damages the potential for being at peace. The sin is called procrastination. We procrastinate because we don't want to do it – whatever that "it" is. We are never at peace when we put something off that we know should be done. This is how we know in our heart that something needs to happen – when we have no peace. There are tons of things we can busy ourselves with, but it's the ones that steals our peace that we block out intentionally that complicates our life. Remember, the more complicated our life, the less time we have to be with our Holy Father.

Read Ephesians 5:14-17

We enhance the evil in the world when we do not accomplish those things that God has set upon our hearts. This isn't simply the Apostle Paul being a bummer, but he is reiterating how the great book of Ecclesiastes conveyed this in many places.

Read Ecc 9:9-10

The book of Ecclesiastes is a brutally honest description of how we place importance on the wrong things and that we should learn to be happy with the simplicity of life. Very, very little is of eternal consequence here. Not the food we eat, the clothes we wear, the things we chase after. What do you think you will remember when we are together in eternity? It isn't the bad times, nor what we consider the good times, but only how we served a Holy God and how his tremendous love saved us.

When do excuses have validity? That is for you to decide in your own heart. Again, are you at peace with the decision you have made? If you are, then okay. If you are not, then there is no excuse. You can't say, "well, I don't know how," because no one should fall back to that. Remember, it is more often the truth that, "I don't want to."

The word "sin" is such a powerful word that sparks emotional responses in those whose conscience have not been seared. We all battle the sin of procrastination. I'm sure if you are honest, you know that you have procrastinated, and it has complicated life for no good reason. The lie we tell ourselves is that if I'm not doing it, then things are simpler. They are not.

So, I will use myself as an example and one that you are somewhat familiar with. We are able to remote stream our service. I know it can be improved. I know I have the skills. I also know I am going to have to learn, change, adapt and resolve issues that I am not perfectly familiar with. It will be a lot of work. I have never gotten the streaming of slides to show up on the livestream like I was able to do at home. I know I have some work arounds that will fix it. Cleaning up the Audio is another challenge.

- A slack hand causes poverty, but the hand of the diligent makes rich. –**Proverbs 10:4**

We have some that depend mightily on our ability to livestream for any number of valid reasons. It works, but not optimally. So why haven't I done it. Because of sin. I have yet again missed the mark. I recognize it for what it is.

Romans 7:15-25

And there you have it. I couldn't put it better myself. Like Paul, I see it for what it is. Sin. It will battle our whole lives.

So how does this complicate my life. I and others have spent some number of hours on this system. I have spent more hours now trying to keep it patched together than if I simply just tore into it and fixed it... maybe. See, we live in a fallen world and sometimes the evil of our days will get the best of us. Nevertheless we must persevere through it all to un-complicate our life and make a good thing happen. So, what are you procrastination about?