

God's Greatest Desire (Part 2)
Selected Scripture
3.19.2017

I want to take a moment and review last weeks message for those who were not here last week and those of us that cannot remember what they ate for breakfast this morning. I am going to go fast so listen closely. Last week we asked and answered a very important question...

What is God's Greatest Desire?

Answer: Relationship and Reconciliation

From the very beginning God created man for a relationship

Genesis 1:26a

Then God said, "Let us make human beings in our image, to be like us.

But God also did not want man to be alone so He created a helper.

Genesis 2:18

Then the Lord God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper who is just right for him."

So we see in this that God's Greatest desire is to have a relationship with man and for man to have a relationship with man. But because of man's choice, man's rebellion they were separated from God. God did not change His desire man changed his. Therefore this began the process of reconciliation. God bringing man back to Himself. We explored many scriptures last week to confirm this truth and closed with:

Colossians 1:19-20

For God in all his fullness was pleased to live in Christ,²⁰ and through him God reconciled everything to himself. He made peace with everything in heaven and on earth by means of Christ's blood on the cross.

All of this was God's desire for man. Because of His incredible love and faithfulness to man He sent His Son to die so that man would be reconciled back to the Father.

You maybe thinking, So if God loves me so much and He wants a relationship with me why didn't He save me and take me directly to heaven to be with Him? Great question which I have a counter question.

What on earth am I here for? ¿Para qué estoy aquí en la tierra?

This question can be found in the 8th best selling Christian book of all times "Purpose Driven Life" written by Rick Warren. This book became so popular because it gave insight to an age old question. Before we answer this question lets pray...

Ephesians 6:10-12:

A final word: Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. 11 Put on all of God's armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil. 12 For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places.

So... What on earth am I here for? Why didn't God just bump us on the head and take us home.

Relationships and Reconciliation God Almighty keeps us here on this earth to fulfill His Greatest Desire!

As Followers of Christ Jesus our greatest desire should be the same as our Lord! Jesus quoted Isaiah in:

Luke 4:18-19

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, for he has anointed me to **bring** Good News to the poor. He has sent me to **proclaim** that captives will be released, that the blind will see, that the oppressed will be set free, 19 and that the time of the Lord's favor has come.

Luke 19:10

For the Son of Man came to **seek and save** those who are lost.

Christ Jesus greatest desire is to reconcile man back to God and He has passed the torch to us!

2 Corinthians 5:18-21

And all of this is a gift from God, who brought us back to himself through Christ. And God has given us this task of reconciling people to him. 19 For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, no longer counting people's sins against them. And he gave us this wonderful message of reconciliation. 20 So we are Christ's ambassadors; God is making his appeal through us. We speak for Christ when we plead, "Come back to God!" 21 For God made Christ, who never sinned, to be the offering for our sin, so that we could be made right with God through Christ.

Break my heart for what breaks Yours!

What is your greatest desire? Does it partner with God's Greatest Desire? Are you a minister of Reconciliation? if not Why?

Communion...