The Critical Journey Week 4 outline 11/12/23 1 Peter 1:6-7

Stand By Me

A Guide for the Journey

I. The Heart of the Question: Is there more than this?

A. Critical Journey Recap

-Gives language to our journey with Jesus

Stage 1: humbles us
Stage 2: grounds us
Stage 3: rewards us
Stage 3: rewards us
Stage 6: transcends us
-Often after the first 3 stages we find ourselves asking: "Is this it?"

A FAITH THAT HAS NEVER BEEN STRUGGLED WITH IS A FAITH THAT ISN'T OWNED

B. What is "The Wall"?

- A Few Possibilities
- 1- The Sinful World
- 2- Our Sinful Self
- 3- Past Wounds or Hurts
- 4- Identity Crises (who are we!?)

C. What causes us to "Eddy"?

Three Possible Reasons:

- 1- It hurts
- 2- We're hurried
- 3- It seems hopeless

GOD WANTS TO BRING US PEACE, HEALING, BREAKTHROUGH AND WHOLENESS AS WE WALK WITH JESUS THROUGH THE WALL AND WE ARE LED BY THE SPIRIT!

II. The Heart of The Answer is YES!

A. A different way to walk:

- 1. Unforced, Freely, Lightly (Matthew 11:28-30) MSG
- 2. New Hope, perseverance, and character (Romans 5:1-5)
- 3. Tribulations produce! (vs. 3)
 - Nothing is wasted! God is doing something!

B. Why is Suffering a Necessary Part to Our Journey?

- 1. OUR Faith proved genuine (1 Peter 1: 6-7) MSG
- 2. We know that you know that you know!
- 3. At the end we find it's just Jesus, and that's enough!
- 4. HIS faithfulness proved genuine. (Psalm 23) NASB

III. An Invitation...

A. To be all in for Jesus

- 1. What's the breaking point?
- 2. What am I holding onto?
- 3. Jesus plus what = my satisfaction?
- 4. What's holding me back? (Hebrews 12:1-2) NASB

B. To be led and spoken to by Jesus

- 1. In the deserts
- 2. Into the valleys
- 3. Into intimacy (John 16:12-15)

C. To come and die with Jesus

- 1. I have been crucified with Christ (Galatians 2:20) NASB
- 2. To get ALL we need from God (Rev 3:15-20) NASB
- 3. When ALL is stripped away...

D. To be still and know Jesus

- 1.He's Doing Something! (Romans 8:28) NASB
- 2. Nothing is wasted (John 6:12) NASB
- 3. When ALL is stripped away...

At The Wall We Encounter:

Past The Wall We Find:

- Sinful World
- Sinful Self
- Wounds or Hurts
- Identity Crises

- Wholeness
- Breakthrough
- Healing
- Peace

IV. The Holy Spirit leads us in... (4 Abide Verticals!)

- A. Scripture
- B. Prayer
- C. Rest
- D. Community

LIFEgroup questions:

- 1. When Life get's hard and you hit "the wall", where do you naturally turn to? What would it look like for you in your life to seek Him first?
- 2. Describe a time in your life when Jesus was all you had. Was He enough? Where is Jesus calling you to come and die?
- 3. Share a really hard time that God brought you through that you would never wish on your worst enemy, but that you are thankful for going through because of what God did in you?