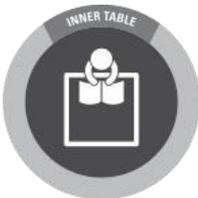


Sermon Notes

"Make Room for Mission"
September 29, 2019



Seeking God
in Solitude



Finding God
in Friendship



Celebrating God
in Community



Reflecting God
in Relationships

Reflection Questions (*please use these individually or in groups*)

Sermon Reflections:

1. Is a “mission-centered” reading of the temple-cleansing episode in the ministry of Jesus one that is new to you? How does it compare to other lessons you’ve heard from this story?
2. How highly do you value proper and consistent corporate worship experiences? How does that level of value compare to the missional part of being a disciple of Jesus?
3. Do you consider yourself a “missionary” for the gospel? Why or why not?
4. Pray that today, and this week, God would guide you into situations and interactions with people who might feel excluded or forgotten by the Church, so that they may know (through your words or actions) that all people are welcome to know our gracious God.

Devotional Reading & Inward Reflection

- **John 2:13-22 | What does it look like to be “zealous” for God (like Jesus was) in our current religious/cultural climate today?**
- **Genesis 12:1-3 | How is God’s calling of Abraham similar to the Christian “Great Commission” calling today?**
- **1 Thess. 4:9-12 | Does a “quiet life” seem like it aligns with being “zealous” for God? Why or why not?**

Self-Care Disciplines (*Excerpts from A Guidebook to Prayer by MK Morse*)

September Discipline: Meditation | *Examen Meditation* (pg. 89)

Reflection Meditation, or the *prayer of examen*, is an opportunity to deepen our life in Christ by discerning God’s movement throughout our day and aligning ourselves with God’s purposes. Jesus calls us to love, and reflective meditation allows us to “see” how we are or are not loving as Jesus loves. The prayer reminds us that Christ first loved us and always does. This prayer is not about judgment but grace.

- 1. At the end of the day, quiet yourself and remember who you are in God’s presence.**
- 2. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you review your day. Think through all the things you did and the conversations you had.**
- 3. Reflect with gratitude on the good gifts of the day, the people, places, and events.**
- 4. Review your day asking (1) when did I love and (2) when did I not love? Or (1) when did I experience God and (2) when did I not?**
- 5. Resolve with Jesus any pattern or concern that arose from the examination. Pray for your needs for tomorrow.**

This prayer is meant to be simple. You need not take more than 10 minutes. But the point is to allow yourself some space for reflection and to consider who you are/were each and every day. Without reflection, there is no change.

Note: Don’t let these burden you each week. Please engage only if you feel it would be beneficial in caring for yourself. Sometimes self-care involves giving yourself a break, even from self care disciplines.