Diving Deeper into Discipleship

February 28, 2021 | Pastor Pete Fowler

On the Altar: Where is the Lamb?

Sermon Reflection Questions:

- Ask God to train your spiritual ears to better hear His voice, and sharpen your discernment to better trust when He has spoken to others.
- Thank God for the people you're able to "do life" with, past and present.
- Do you have a need, or do you know of someone who does? Ask the Holy Spirit to build your confidence that God is able to meet our needs.
- Celebrate the resurrection power of Jesus—it's availability to us today, and the future it continues to shape as God draws all things toward His glorious conclusion.

Devotional Reading and Reflection

- **Psalm 66** | In this passage (v. 10), to what is "testing" compared? How does this change the way you see God's testing of us? Do you find it odd that a verse about being tested is surrounded on all sides by verses bursting with worship? Why or why not?
- **Ecclesiastes 4:9-12** | Even though these verses are often tied to the context of marriage, it is clear they can apply to any relationship. What do they teach us about the value of togetherness?
- **Philippians 4:10-20** | How do we find a balance between living contentedly and making known our needs, to others and to God?

Self-Care Discipline

February Discipline: Solitude & Silence

Day of Listening (*Celebration of Discipline, p.107*)

- The discipline of solitude and silence are interwoven into the DNA of a Christian person. We rely on them like one relies on food or water. Perhaps this is why so many folks feel spiritually malnourished or dehydrated because they are not opening themselves up to solitude and silence. Solitude is not simply the absence of noise but the absence of distraction. Whenever we are able to sit and rest in the presence of God, our eyes are opened in ways that we wouldn't have imagined before.
- This week's self-care discipline may be a good one to keep in your back pocket for later. Try making it a point to withdraw 4 times a year for 3-4 hours for the purpose of reorienting your life goals. This can easily be done in one evening. Stay late in your office or do it at home or find a quiet corner of the library. Reevaluate your goals and objectives in life. What do you want to have accomplished one year from now? Ten years from now? Our tendency is to overestimate what we can accomplish in one year and underestimate what we can accomplish in ten. Set realistic goals but be willing to dream, to stretch. In the quiet of those brief hours, listen to the thunder of God's silence.

Notes