20/20: Honoring the Past by Preparing for the Future



Week Five: We Have to Choose

Overview

Did you figure out the answer to the riddle from this week's message? It went like this: "If you have three, you have three. If you have two, you have two. If you have one, you have none." What's the answer? It's choices.

The idea of choices loomed large over our discussion this week. Ron explained to us that "not choosing is choosing." Each of us have many choices to make in our lives, such as: "Where will we eat?" "What do I want to watch on TV tonight?" etc. There are bigger choices, however, that affect us for the rest of our lives. "Where will I live?" "What kind of career do I want to work towards?" "Will I trust God?" We see that Joshua puts that last choice in front of the people of Israel just before his death. He challenges them to serve the Lord their God first and only. Their response to that choice, he says, will either bring an abundance of blessing or an abundance of curses.

Our answer to that question will have massive implications for our own lives, as well. It can bring blessing, or ultimate disappointment. As we discuss this passage, pray that God will open your eyes to choices that you need to make and ways in which you can serve him more faithfully.

Reading and Discussion

Use this scripture and these questions to frame your discussion as a group.

Read Joshua 24:1-27 together as a group.

- 1. Does anything in this passage stick out to you on first reading? Did anything in your own life come to mind as you read these words?
- 2. Joshua recounted all of the good things that God had done for the people of Israel as a reminder that he has been faithful and is worth being faithful to. Recall and share a positive story of God's faithfulness in your own life, if you feel comfortable
- 3. In his message on Sunday, Ron emphasized that the choice to serve God is not just a one time choice. It's a daily decision. Do you struggle with making a daily decision to serve God? How so?
- 4. There may be a larger choice that you feel that God is calling you to make. Does anything come to mind? You don't have to share if you're uncomfortable. But if there is a choice, ask the others in the group to pray for you. Commit to spending the last few minutes in prayer for one another and for the decisions that you face.