



with

SERMON OUTLINE

Sunday July 4th, 2021

Life With Faith ~ Pastor David Cooke

- "What's your Sparkle Farkle?"
- With: Reimagining The Way You Relate To God
 - I. **Life Under God** - control by securing God's blessings through religion and morality.
 - II. **Life Over God** - control by following natural laws or divine principles.
 - III. **Life From God** - control by amassing wealth, health and popularity so you don't need anything.
 - IV. **Life For God** - control by serving God so he owes you blessing and protection.



- **Fear, Control or...Faith**

"Control is an illusion, but what is the alternative? How can we be set free from fear apart from our feeble attempts at control?"

"With" p.119

- **Faith**

~ Henri Nouwen Story.

"Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen." (Hebrews 11:1, ESV)

- **Two Kinds of Faith**

- i) Confessional Faith

"If you openly declare that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by openly declaring your faith that you are saved."

(Romans 10:9-10, NLT)

- ii) Experiential Faith

"It is the experiential knowledge of God's love - his unyielding goodness toward us - that delivers us from fear and gives us the courage to surrender to him." "With" p.121

"What good is it, dear brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but don't show it by your actions? Can that kind of faith save anyone?" (James 2:14, NLT)

"So you see, faith by itself isn't enough. Unless it produces good deeds, it is dead and useless. Now someone may argue, "Some people have faith; others have good deeds." But I say, "How can you show me your faith if you don't have good deeds? I will show you my faith by my good deeds." You say you have faith, for you believe that there is one God. Good for you! Even the demons believe this, and they tremble in terror." (James 2:17-19, NLT)

- **Faith Is Getting In The Arena**

- ~ Theodore Roosevelt - "Citizenship in a Republic,"

- **Our Mission**

- We are passionate about raising up compassionate followers of Jesus Christ to be risk-takers for God.
 - Quit playing it safe.

- **Living The Counterfeit**

"The Christian ideal has not been tried and found wanting. It has been found difficult; and left untried."

G.K. Chesterton, *What's Wrong with the World*

- Let's Be Honest...
 - there are things in our life where we feel like Jesus has let us down. Faith "didn't work".
 - Are you willing to be REALLY Honest? Which Approach Were You Living?

- **Faith Alive**

- Matthew 28:18-20, NLT

- Husband, love your wife like Christ loved the church, laying his life down for her
- Parents, draw closer to your kids, entering their world
- Wife, stop resenting your husbands flaws and start respecting his strengths
- Bosses, sacrificially love and serve those under you so they have the chance to reach their full potential
- Workers, do your work for that jerk of a boss or jerk of an organization like they are Jesus themselves so you do everything with joy and excellence
- Church, step closer to the broken, the mentally ill, the hurting, the notorious sinners to be the extraordinarily imperfect hands, feet, voice and love of Jesus.
- **And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.**

- Fear, Control or...Faith
Hebrews 11:6 NLT

- I. God is the reward, Jesus is the proof, the resurrection is the promise.

Discussion Questions

1. In what ways do you seek control over the unpredictable things in your life?
 2. Can you think of a situation where your desire for control resulted in conflict?
 3. What evidence from your life confirms that control is an illusion?
 4. What teachings of Jesus are you afraid to follow? Can you identify where your fear comes from?
 5. Think back over the previous week. If you had fully trusted that God was with you, what might you have done differently? What "risks" might you have taken?
 6. How are life and death redefined for those living with God?
- What significance does Jesus' resurrection have for you? Does it really influence how you live?