

SERMON SERIES: Living as Loved

SPEAKER: Scott Beckenhauer

DATE: September 1, 2024

Sermon Title

“His Love Determines Direction”

Introduction

This week we continued our series “Living as Loved”, focusing on what our lives would look like if we lived like we are loved by God. Our homes, schools, neighborhoods, jobs, and relationships would all look different, and our lives are changed when we know that we are loved. This week, our focus is on the love of God changing the direction our lives are going to model his love to those around us. When we follow Jesus, we go from having a place to a purpose, and that purpose is focused on the direction set for us by Jesus... loving others.

- Share a time in your life when you felt truly loved and valued. How did that experience impact you?

Seek the Word

- Read Matthew 4:18-22
 - Reflect on the calling of John and the other disciples. What does it mean to leave everything behind and follow Jesus?
 - How does this passage illustrate the transition from having a place to having a purpose?
- Read John 3:16
 - How does this verse encapsulate the message of God’s love and purpose for us?
- Read 1 John 4:15-16
 - How does acknowledging Jesus as the Son of God change our daily lives and our understanding of God’s love?

Go Deeper

Reflect on the story of John being exiled to the story of Patmos from Scott’s sermon. Despite his circumstances, he continued to find purpose and write the book of Revelation. How can we find purpose in difficult or unexpected situations in our own lives?

Talk About It

- Think about your daily routine. How can you invite Jesus into your everyday activities to transform them from mundane tasks into purposeful actions?
- Scott's sermon, and this series as a whole, emphasized living with the perspective that we are loved by God. How can you be reminded daily of God's love for you? What practical steps can you take to live out this truth?
- What is one specific area of your life where you feel God is calling you to step out of your "boat" and follow Him more closely? How can this group support you in taking that step?

Wrap Up

Reminder: **"When we follow Jesus, we go from having a place to having a purpose."** This truth about God's love encourages us to see beyond our daily routines and recognize that, through a relationship with Jesus, our lives are infused with divine purpose and meaning. It challenges us to invite Jesus into every aspect of our lives, transforming mundane tasks into opportunities to reflect His love and fulfill His mission.

Challenge: Each morning when you wake up, take time to ask God for purpose in your schedule. Ask him to be present in your tasks and actions, and that he would reveal purpose in those moments for you to love others well.