

Scripture References

Mark 8:36 What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul?

2 Peter 1:3-4 His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature, having escaped the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.

2 Cor 5:7 For we live by faith, not by sight.

Matt 3:16-17 As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."

John 12:23-31. Jesus replied, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. 24 Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. 25 Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. 26 Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me. 27 "Now my soul is troubled, and what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour. 28 Father, glorify your name!" Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and will glorify it again." 29 The crowd that was there and heard it said it had thundered; others said an angel had spoken to him. 30 Jesus said, "This voice was for your benefit, not mine.

Matt 27:54 When the centurion and those with him who were guarding Jesus saw the earthquake and all that had happened, they were terrified, and exclaimed, "Surely he was the Son of God!"

Rom 8:15-16 The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father." The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children.

Authentic Jesus, A Study in 1 John

Aug 11, 2019

Fred Hennes, Sermon #644, "Winning at Life" (1 John 5:3-13)

Winning at life implies victory over your opponent. Mankind's opponent is _____.

As love grows, faith grows as well, and _____ is the result of faith.

The greatest _____ to victorious faith in Christ is the world.

Faith grows in stages: it _____ from *friendship* to *love* to *conformity*.

Faith is not so much believing despite the evidence but _____ despite the consequences.

Jesus' baptism, his death, and the Holy Spirit living in us all _____ that Jesus is the Son of God.

There is not much in life that we can be entirely sure of. One thing however we can know for _____ is our relationship with God and our assurance of eternal life.

Life Group Ice-Breaker Question

1. Given the opportunity, what is one thing in life that you would like to do over again? Why?

Discussion Questions

2. Regarding this sermon, is there any truth that stands out as being particularly helpful, insightful or difficult to grasp?
3. What is your definition and understanding of what it means to “win at life?”
4. In what ways (list as many as you can) did Jesus win at life?
5. What makes a testimony powerful? If your life were observed over the past 24 hours, what would it testify to?

6. What things in life are you certain about? Where does your certainty come from and how can you be convincingly sure?

Application Questions & Prayer

7. Regarding your relationship to God, where are you in the spectrum of friendship, love, and conformity to His image? What can you do to either advance to the next level, or remain at the highest level?
8. Personal challenge: explain how you will apply this sermon to your life.
9. Pray for opportunities to leverage your confidence in Christ so that the greatest number of people would benefit, and God would receive the highest level of praise.