

**Easter Rewind
Good Friday
04/06/24
Newport News**

Opening

-explain series...

-Also, would love to hear about some of your experiences in responding during last week's message...would love to read some over the never few week, anonymously of course...

-also, tonight's message is a bit of two mini-messages...

Introduction

-A word is going to show up on the screen in just a moment...let's do this, focus on the screen and then when the word comes up, what is the first thing that comes to mind, your first reaction?

➤ **"Good"**

-We are talking about this word because the Friday before Easter is called "Good Friday." Now we don't know exactly when that began, historians believe it actually began as God's Friday or Holy Friday but the old English or Germanic word of "God" morphed into "good." Much like the saying "goodbye" was originally "God be with you." My suggestion to you tonight is that "good" is what God always intended because it forces us to grapple with how God defines "good" in this life.

-Genesis 1 = pleasant, agreeable, excellent, rich, valuable, glad, happy, prosperous, etc.

-**John 16:7 (NIV)** – Greek here means to help, to be profitable, expedient

-Romans 8:28 – useful, pleasant, agreeable, happy, excellent, honorable

-We are still however confronted with this question: Why defend calling the Friday of Christ's betrayal, torture, ridicule, and death "Good Friday?"

Good Friday

-Let's look at a timeline together for a moment...

- **(have timeline on screen)**
- Jewish day runs from sunset to sunset
- Explain why we say Jesus rose on the third day...
- Recommend book by Jim Bishop (The Day Christ Died)

-All the worst things happened on Friday!

-God's qualifications for goodness

- **What it is** (use creation as an example)
- **What it does** (use creation as an example)
- **What it makes possible** (use creation as an example)

- In contrast...we have Good Friday

- What it is – not good (sad, dark, frightening)
- What it does – not good (violent, evil, fracturing)
- What it makes possible – very good!
- Yet Jesus still calls it “good” in John 16:7
- Our good God still asks us to do hard things...

-**Ephesians 2:8-10**...God always has something “good” for us to do...and sometimes you are going to have to **look past what it is, look past what it does to be able to see “the very good” it makes possible.**

>I don't want to miss out on the goodness of God in my life. Even when what it is isn't good, even when what it does isn't good, if God says what it will one day make possible will be very good then I want God to hear from me a resounding yes!

>(preach here some)

-SHOW VIDEO

An Assignment for Hurting

-(talk briefly about difference between the pain I feel from the sin I commit and the shame I feel...hurting is from know what I did, shame is knowing that others know too)

-**Matthew 26:31-35** (Peter's betrayal predicted)

-**Matthew 28:7** (go to Galilee)

-When you are hurting because of mistakes you have made, hurting because of sin that seems to have a grip on you...look for God to give you an assignment!

- Participation brings transformation
- Getting reacquainted with obedience
- Restoring HS to dominant influence
- God uses assignments to help us see ourselves

A Community for Shame

-**Matthew 26:74-75** (Peter's betrayal)

-**John 21:17** (Peter restored)

>notice Jesus' command for Peter is only possible if Peter is in community with others!

-When you are ashamed because of the mistakes you have made, ashamed because of the sin that seems to have a grip on you...look for God to lead you into community!

Band

-John 3:16-21 (read)

- Talk about healthy accountability
- **Community says "I am seen"**
- **Community says "I am loved"**
- **Community says "I am chosen"**

Close