

**Shalom Series
Peace With Yourself
09/18/21
Newport News**

Opening/Introduction

-Pray

-(drawing for the gift card and honorable mentions)

-Hispanic Heritage Month (read the 3 facts...)

The Way (series...joke about The Mandalorian)

-First century people who professed faith in Jesus as the Messiah were identified by names that placed a greater emphasis on becoming like Jesus and not just believing in Jesus.

-I want City Life to be a church where people learn how to pattern their lives after Jesus.

-(show 4 quadrant slide: Praxis, Doxa, Shema, and Shalom)

Praxis - The Way of Jesus' Character

Doxa - The Way of Jesus' Belief

Shema - The Way of Jesus' Obedience

Shalom - The Way of Jesus' Peace

-What is your reason why?

- Last week: rewards, reveal Jesus, best life, please God
- Week One: The Conversation
- Lunch Friday: for Steve, he shared it's about being made whole...
- Maybe frequency of Jesus' content doesn't translate to universal emphasis?
- Find your reason why!!!!

This Series

-Are you at peace with God, yourself, others, and creation?

-The two texts we'll be using that give us our subtitle: Peace With Your Portion

- Matthew 25:14-19 (God, yourself, others, and creation)
 - Genesis 1:1-31 (God, yourself, others, and creation)
1. embrace His sovereignty. (Jesus did...)
 2. embrace your unchangeables (Jesus did...)
 3. embrace their diversity (Jesus did...)
 4. embrace your chores (Jesus did...)

-You will never be at peace with yourself until you are ready to embrace your portion of unchangeables.

Unchangeables

-Matthew 25:14-30

- note: false narratives about God don't justify rebellion
- The Master gave each servant a different portion.
- The Portions were not negotiable.
- The Servants were accountable for tasks they didn't choose.
- The bags of silver are a prophetic picture of unchangeables

-What are the unchangeables of your life? (participation)

- time in history
- family of origin
- ethnicity
- personality
- spiritual gifts
- natural abilities
- my comparative experience
- intellectual capacity
- fertility
- providence
- time
- physical death
- body shape and size
- genetic conditions

- sex, gender, and sexuality (talk about idolatry...the created being the creator, each of these individual but NOT independent!)

-1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, 23a...I think Paul here is telling us something about Shalom.

-Are you willing to be thankful for every "portion" The Master has assigned to you?

The Genesis Lens

-Genesis 1:1-31

- **there is purpose in everything He created**
- **there is beauty in everything He created**
- **there is value in everything He created**
- **there is variety in everything He created**
- **there is order in everything He created** (order through interdependence)

-my challenge to you...

1. take this list of unchangeables
2. circle all the ones that you question or even resent
3. (explain comparative experiences and evil/tragedy)
4. pray a Genesis 1 prayer over each unchangeable

For example... (breakthrough from self-loathing)

"God, help me to see the purpose in my personality."

"God help me to see the beauty in my personality."

"God help me to see the value in my personality."

"God help me to see the variety in my personality."

"God help me to see the order in my personality."

-"fallen world" is an oversimplification at best and dangerous at worst!!!!

Band

-Genesis 1:26

>Is it possible that as Christians we are trying to change things about ourselves that are supposed to be part of our Imago Dei?

-Isaiah 53:1-12

...doesn't sound like what God on earth should be does it...are you willing to trust that God knew exactly how to make you so you could accomplish everything you are supposed to do and become everything you are supposed to be?

(point back to mine and Steve's lunch...find your reason...)