

First Love Life... Part Two

We have spent several weeks now breaking down what it means to live life loving Jesus first. For our last lesson in this series, we are going to simply listen to Him, asking His Holy Spirit to speak to us directly. Asking Him to grow our love for Him as we spend time with Him. He can do that! He promises.

This will be a bit challenging for us that are more comfortable *filling in blanks* trying to come up with the *right* answer.

Look at this week like a week long coffee time with Jesus. You're meeting Him one on one, listening to Him speak and know He is listening to you respond. Grab hold of the reality that your relationship with Him is alive! It is personal, and it is real. Like any other relationship we value, we need to fight laziness in order for it to be healthy and growing.

Suggestion: As you read the narrative each day, just listen through the first reading. After reading, jot down a few thoughts that come to your mind about what you have heard Him say. What is resonating with your heart? If you have time, read it again, taking time to pause and respond verbally to Him, just like you would with a friend.

That's it! I am giving you a suggested reading plan below, but don't rush it. If you don't get through it all this week, just keep going next week. I would suggest that you commit 30 minutes per day if possible. Even if you have to break it into 5 minute portions due to interruptions, don't give up! Make that time with your First Love a high priority. He wants to speak to you, to be with you, to lavish His love on you. Remember, you belong to Him and He loves you.

“I have given her Your Word...My prayer is not that you take her out of the world but that you protect her from the evil one. She is not of the world, even as I am not of it. Sanctify her by the truth, Your Word is truth.”

—Jesus

Puritan prayer from the 1600's

I am no longer my own, but Yours.
Put me to what You will, rank me with whom You will;
Put me to doing, put me to suffering;
Let me be employed for You or laid aside for You,
Exalted for You or brought low for You;
Let me be full, let me be empty;
Let me have all things, let me have nothing;
I freely and heartily yield all things to Your pleasure and disposal.
And now, O glorious and blessed God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit;
You are mine, and I am Yours.
So be it.
And the covenant which I have made on earth,
Let it be ratified in heaven.
Amen

Day One

John chapters 1-4

As you read the narrative, just listen through the first reading.

- After reading, jot down a few thoughts that come to your mind about what you have heard Him say.

- What is resonating with your heart?

- Read it again, taking time to pause and respond verbally to Him, just like you would with a friend.

Day Two

John chapters 5-8

As you read the narrative, just listen through the first reading.

- After reading, jot down a few thoughts that come to your mind about what you have heard Him say.

- What is resonating with your heart?

- Read it again, taking time to pause and respond verbally to Him, just like you would with a friend.

Day Three

John chapters 9-12

As you read the narrative, just listen through the first reading.

- After reading, jot down a few thoughts that come to your mind about what you have heard Him say.

- What is resonating with your heart?

- Read it again, taking time to pause and respond verbally to Him, just like you would with a friend.

Day Four

John chapters 13-16

As you read the narrative, just listen through the first reading.

- After reading, jot down a few thoughts that come to your mind about what you have heard Him say.

- What is resonating with your heart?

- Read it again, taking time to pause and respond verbally to Him, just like you would with a friend.

Day Five

John chapters 17-21

As you read the narrative, just listen through the first reading.

- After reading, jot down a few thoughts that come to your mind about what you have heard Him say.

- What is resonating with your heart?

- Read it again, taking time to pause and respond verbally to Him, just like you would with a friend.
