

Sermon Notes

Enter In Part 1: God Likes You!

December 2nd – December 3rd, 2023

- **Enter In**
- Advent Season: Jesus came here to have a relationship with us. To be our Savior and Lord.
 - o Savior is our rescuer, redeemer, deliverer, healer, savior!!
 - o Lord is our higher power, authority, leader, God who we worship, trust and obey!
- This relationship with God doesn't just magically happen, we have to Enter In.
- **Part 1: God Likes You!**
- Perhaps the most tragic mistake people make with God is thinking God doesn't like them.
 - o Don't project your insecurity and self-loathing onto Almighty God. He likes you!!!
- **Romans 5:6-10** gives the basic idea.
 - o **(verses 6-8)** God loves ungodly sinners! Understand that. We are His creation and His children.
 - He sees potential not just our past or present! He created us for this potential!
 - o **(verses 9-10)** So, if He loved us then, why wouldn't He love us now in our imperfections!!
 - God likes you and is rooting for you to win!!
- Problem: people sometimes want to take advantage of God because of His great love.
 - o Don't do that. God likes you, but He doesn't like being played for a fool. **Hebrews 10:26-31**
 - Instead, let us honor Jesus, hold sacred the blood of the Covenant, and be grateful for grace!!
- Let's go to the book of Jonah for an example.
 - o Even though Nineveh was violent and evil, God loved the Ninevites! **Jonah 4:11**
 - So Jonah, eventually, went to Nineveh...and they repented! **Jonah 3:3-10**
 - Isn't that wonderful!! Jonah wasn't so happy about it...
 - But then 140ish years later Nineveh is back to their evil ways, Nahum prophesies against them, and the city along with the Assyrian Empire is destroyed.
 - o Don't think you can manipulate God and fool Him. Turn to God, He likes you.
- The famous story of the Prodigal Son. **Luke 15:11-24**
 - o The love of the Father didn't falter. He loved his son...even though.
 - o The son needed to come to his senses...and he finally did!
 - If God gives you a wake-up call, go ahead and wake up!!
 - o Lesson to those with a prodigal: be worth coming home to.
- But this isn't the end of the parable. Now we meet the older brother! **Luke 15:25-32**
 - o Sort of like Jonah. **Jonah 4:1-3**
 - Why would Jesus include the older brother thing? Why include Jonah's attitude??
 - God likes you...the people associated with or serving God however, may not share the heart of the Father.
 - o Don't let them steal your joy or hinder your relationship with the Lord!!
 - God likes you. Unfortunately, that doesn't mean they will.
 - o This is nothing new, so don't be shocked. Instead, be loved by God!!
 - To the church: Let's share the heart of the Father towards broken people!!
- Do this in remembrance of me. Let's open the door of our hearts to the Lord as we remember.
 - o To the church in Laodicea. (Hot nor cold bunch.) **Revelation 3:20**
 - o Let's be smarter than them and open the door to the Lord who likes us!
- Get prayer by emailing the prayer team; prayer@goodhope.ag