



What do You Want?
THE SIX WEEK
Pursuit

“What is a Reset to You?”

When I hear the word “RESET” I think of resetting my video game, resetting my alarm clock, or resetting my phone to its factory settings. But the word RESET comes from a very odd yet interesting place; and it has nothing to do with electronics. Jewelers first used the word RESET when they moved, or “re-set”, a gemstone from one piece of jewelry to another. So, for example, a jeweler could re-set a diamond by removing the precious stone from its beaten old ring and placing the diamond into a new golden ring. That would be an official RESET.

“Why are we talking about Jewelry and Resetting?”

Because Jesus wants to RESET you! In John 3, Jesus encounters an honest religious man named Nicodemus. This Nicodemus approaches Jesus first and states: “Teacher, we know you are a teacher from God, because no one can do these signs unless God is with him.” Jesus immediately responds with a very typical Jesus answer: “Unless you are born again, you cannot see the Kingdom of God.” Haha! Oh Jesus, you always take us off guard. Nicodemus, like any normal person, is completely confused by Jesus’ words. Then, just to make matters all the more complicated, Jesus begins to speak of deeper things. “Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’ The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.”

“Earth and Heaven”

There is clearly a disconnect between Jesus and Nicodemus. And this disconnect, this miscommunication, is the center of our conversation today. It's a problem! Why can't Nicodemus understand what Jesus is saying? Interesting, Jesus gives an answer to this problem. In the middle of Jesus' conversation with Nicodemus, Jesus says: "Are you a teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things?" And then he follows with a profound question: "If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things?"

"It All Makes Sense!!!"

Nicodemus cannot understand what Jesus is saying because Jesus is speaking from a heavenly, or SPIRIT, perspective. Nicodemus is human, so, like the rest of us, he sees things from an earthly, or HUMAN perspective. This is exactly why Jesus says "You must be born again."

"You Need a Reset"

Like a diamond ring being "re-set" into a new shiny ring, we also need RESET. We need Jesus to take us up out of our broken life and HUMAN perspective and into His SPIRIT perspective. Otherwise, like Nicodemus, who was religious (and a teacher of God's Word by the way), we feel and sense God like the wind brushing past, but we do not know where He came from and where He is going. To know what God wants, to learn His plan, we need to move past our HUMAN perspective and be RESET into Jesus' perspective. In all honesty, many of us believe Jesus needs to be invited into our lives and into our routines. But, I don't know; when I read about Jesus in the Bible, He seems hardly satisfied with just being just a part of YOUR life. In fact, more often than not, JESUS loves to invite people into HIS life, perspective, and plan.

"So What do you Want?"

The question comes back around. This is the question our every conversation is built around. Jesus knows what you want. Jesus knows your desires, dreams, and ambitions. You know your desires, dreams, and ambitions. And chances are many of your friends and family know your desires, dreams, and ambitions. But, quick question, do you know Jesus' desires, dreams, and ambitions? Do you know where the Spirit comes from and where He is going?

"You Need a Reset"

Like a diamond RESET into a new ring, we must be RESET into Jesus' perspective. Do you want more out of life? Do you want to know Jesus more? What do you want? I guarantee Jesus is the meaning you are searching for; He is the depth. If we want to know Jesus, if we want to

know God's plans, if we want more, then we must stop living in our broken and damaged perspective and be RESET. And, to be RESET is simple. All you must do is remind yourself of this one truth and reflect on the significance of this truth. This one truth, Jesus shared with Nicodemus in that very conversation oh so long ago.

“Come and See”

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

~Jesus

GROUP DISCUSSION

Take a few minutes to discuss the following questions with your group.

1. Why couldn't Nicodemus, a smart religious teacher of God's Word, understand what Jesus was saying?
2. What is Jesus talking about when He talks about the Spirit coming and going like wind? Why do God's ways seem so distant, foreign, and confusing?
3. Have you invited Jesus into your life? Are you considering Jesus? Warning! Jesus isn't satisfied with being just an addition to your current life. Jesus wants to invite you into His life, perspective, and plan. Does this thought scare you? Or do you find it encouraging?
4. What if you could know God's thoughts? Can you just imagine what God thinks about? What do you believe God thinks about? What kind of thoughts does God have?
5. How do you feel about Jesus wanting to RESET you? What kind of emotions or thoughts come to you when you hear that Jesus wants to lift you up out of your current position and move you into a spiritual perspective?
6. Being born again, or RESET is not a difficult process. It begins with a shift in perspective; a shift in where our attention lies. Our focus needs to be on Jesus. As we reflect on who Jesus is and what Jesus has accomplished, our perspective begins to shift from what we want to what God wants. Do you trust what God has planned for you? Or do you struggle giving up what you want and trusting what God has is better?

QUESTIONS FOR KIDS

If you have children, here are some questions you can go over with them.

1. What do you think God thinks about? He's God, He knows everything, created outer space, created the world, and everything else. He must have some crazy big thoughts.
2. What would it be like if you could see things from God's eyes? I mean, He can see everything. What kinds of things do you think you could see?
3. What do you think God loves to think about the most? What does He love to look at?
4. Jesus wants to open your eyes to see things the way God sees things. All we need to do is keep asking Jesus to help us see things the way God sees things.

CLOSING PRAYER

Close your time together in prayer. Here are a few ideas of what you could pray about based on the topic of today's discussion:

- Pray for Jesus to “re-set” you and shift your perspective from earthly things to the things of God.
- Ask Jesus to forgive you for persisting in your own direction and way. Ask for strength to trust in God and His plan.
- Pray that God would bring you up into His plan and purpose.
- Thank Jesus for who He is and for what He has done.
- Pray that your perspective this week would be shifted to the things of Jesus and that everything you do would be seen through God's lens.

THIS WEEK...

Take a moment within this next week and evaluate your thoughts for about 10 to 15 minutes. I would encourage you to reread John 3:1-21 and reflect on Jesus' teaching and character. How do your thoughts hold up to the way Jesus thinks? Does your life reflect that you are born again or reset? If not, then ask Jesus to “re-set” you. Ask for Jesus to shift your perspective. Meditate on John 3:16-21. Jesus wants to work in you. He has a fantastic plan for your life. It might just be time for a reset.