

DIDN'T SEE IT
COMING



PART 2: COMBATting COMPROMISE

Sermon Notes

Text: Romans 7:15-25

Intro:

Overcoming the greatest challenges that no one expects and everyone experiences.

My competency gave me entrance into a place where my character wouldn't be able to sustain me.

Most doors in life are opened by our competency.

1 Corinthians 13:1-7 - Paul chastises the Corinthians for overemphasizing competency over character.

Short term rewards are based on competency, but long term fruit is based on character.

"All the competency in the world can't compensate for a lack of character" ~Carey Nieuwhof

Telltale signs your character is drifting:

1. There is a growing gap between your public life and your private life
2. You're hiding things
3. You fail to follow through on what you've said
4. You justify your bad actions and decisions

5. Your life has become all about you

"The antidote to compromise is simply this: work twice as hard on your character as you do on your competency" ~Carey Nieuwhof

Romans 7:15-25

Galatians 5:22-25 - The Fruit of the Spirit

One of the sneaky benefits of practicing Spiritual disciplines is that they can become a back door to Character development.

Conclusion:

Life Group Discussion

Warm up:

1. Do you have any hidden talents (i.e. painting, juggling, pottery, woodworking, Appalachian throat singing) What are your talents? What do you love about them?
2. What stood out to you about Sunday's sermon? What was interesting? Confusing? Weird? Thought provoking?

Study & Discussion:

1. What is the relationship between character and competency? What happens when there is a gap between the two?
2. Read Romans 5:15-25. Do you relate with the struggle described in this passage? Why does it seem so hard to carry out the good you want to do (v. 18)? Is there a spiritual dimension to this struggle?
3. Read Galatians 5:16-26. What stands out to you? What does the use of the "fruit" metaphor tell us about the nature of the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives? What does it mean practically to "keep in step with the Spirit" (v. 25)?

Application:

1. Look at the 5 telltale signs that your character is drifting. Which do you see in your own life? How will you work on those?
2. What can you do this week to starting strengthening your character?

Prayer:

- Pray for the Holy Spirit to produce the character of Christ in your life.

Other Requests

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