

Life Lesson

June 7 & 8, 2008

“Happiness is...”

Pastor David Welsh

What was the happiest time in your life and why? What was going on? Were relationships a big part of your joy?

Psalm 1 (NLT)

“Oh, the joys of those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or stand around with sinners, or join in with scoffers.”

Who do you seek advice from? Have you ever considered that the people you hang around with and listen to can affect your happiness? Do you have friends that drain you, or lift you up?

“But they delight in doing everything the Lord wants; day and night they think about his law.”

Does this verse describe your relationship with God? Pastor Welsh compared our relationship with God similar to a relationship in marriage. Are you putting the effort forth to have a healthy, growing, intimate relationship with God or do you expect him to do all the work and be there at all times for you?

“They are like trees planted along the riverbank, bearing fruit each season without fail. Their leaves never wither, and in all they do, they prosper.”

God is the one who provides this spiritual fruit and helps us not to wither. We, the righteous, are compared to a tree. What is our part in this scene? What is needed to be joyous, blessed, fruitful, and prosperous? (look at all the verbs/actions in the previous verses)

“But this is not true of the wicked. They are like worthless chaff, scattered by the wind. They will be condemned at the time of judgment. Sinners will have no place among the godly. For the Lord watches over the path of the godly, but the path of the wicked leads to destruction.”

Eternal perspective is so important to remember when we see the wicked prosper. How does God describe the wicked? What is their sentence at judgment?

Key: Happiness is based on a RELATIONSHIP with God.

APPLICATION - *Living out what you have learned this week...*

Each morning this week read a chapter in the Bible. Find one verse that speaks to you and write it on a small piece of paper. Keep it in your pocket all day and take it out and meditate on it. Pray it back to God.

Written by Cheryl Acuna