

What is God Like? God is Relational

"God can't give us peace and happiness apart from Himself because there is no such thing." C.S. Lewis

We see this truth **From the Beginning** and throughout scripture

Gen 1, John 1, Matt 28:19, Deut 6:4, Mark 12:29 1 Tim 2:5, 2 Cor 13:14

Genesis 1:26, "Then God said, 'Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.'"

"Perichoresis: this concept as it relates to the Trinity stipulates that the other-oriented love of the three divine Persons is such that throughout eternity they have completely given themselves over to one another and thus fully dwell within one another." Greg Boyd

God Created Humanity for Relationship

Gen 2, 22:18, James 2:23, John 15:14-15,

"Adam was not lonely because he was imperfect. Adam was lonely because he was perfect. Adam was lonely because he was made in the image of God and therefore had to have someone to love someone to work with, someone to talk to someone to share with." Tim Keller

Jesus' Ministry Modeled Relationship

John 15:9-17, Mark 2:13-17, Matt 11:16-19, Luke 6:21,15, Rev 19:6-9

Take Aways:

1) Relationship: the path to fulfillment.

John 15

2) Relationship – the outward sign of discipleship

John 13:34-35, 1 John 4:7-12

- 1) Share a rose and thorn – something that was good this past week and something that was difficult.
- 2) Spend a few minutes praying for each other for the things that are going on in your life right now praise or prayer items.
- 3) Have you had a hard time understanding the doctrine of the trinity? Why or why not? What are some things that have helped you better understand it?
- 4) Why do you think the idea that God is a relational God is so important? What does it tell us about us? What does it reveal about the way we relate to God and each other?
- 5) Read John 15:1-17.
 - a) What stands out to you in the passages you read?
 - b) What is the most challenging part of these passages for you?
 - c) Jesus says that the key to fruitful life is staying connected to Him. What are some ways that we can connect with Jesus? What ways have worked best in your life?
 - d) Jesus says over and over that His command is that his disciples love one another. Do you think we (the church) have done a good job of living this out? Why or why not?
 - e) How can we do a better job?
 - f) What would it look like for us to love our neighbours the way Jesus loved His? How can we do this in a Covid world?
- 6) What one thing can you do this week to apply the take aways?
- 7) Close your time in prayer.

Got Questions? Text 519-893-2951 or email shayne@pathwaycc.ca