



SERIES: August / September Series “HE IS ENOUGH”

SPEAKER: NAT CRAWFORD

Saturday, 09/18/2021

Scripture: Colossians 3:16-17

TITLE: What’s Your Motivation?

“Why did you do that?” Or “What were you thinking?” Those are two common questions in our house. When the younger brother comes in crying because, the older brother decided to duct tape his brother upside down on the wall or when the bathroom is filled with bubbles, what other question should a parent ask?

Now, these are humorous and somewhat embellished stories, but the point stands. When people do things, we want to know why. What motivates someone’s behavior at work, at home, at church, and in the shopping aisle matters. And what motivates a Christian’s behavior especially matters to God.

What do I mean by that? Let’s continue walking with Paul in Colossians 3:16-17 (NLT).

“Let the message about Christ, in all its richness, fill your lives. Teach and counsel each other with all the wisdom he gives. Sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs to God with thankful hearts. And whatever you do or say, do it as a representative of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through him to God the Father.”

The beginning of verse 16 is really what Back to the Bible is all about. Paul says, “Let the message of Christ.” It’s really the word of Christ, or simply put, God’s Word. Let God’s word, in all its richness or abundance, fill your lives.

We know that reading the Bible isn’t enough to see life transformation. It’s really about Bible engagement. It’s all about reading, reflecting, and responding to it. Wrestling and thinking through its fullness and applying it daily to our lives. Paul’s declaration is our daily desire for you.

Paul says, as that Word of God penetrates your lives, share God’s truth with each other. Correct each other when you stray or espouse false teaching. Encourage each other to move closer to Jesus each and every day. This will move us to worship God with our mouths and lives.

And in all things, do it as representative of Christ. It’s reflective of what Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 10:31. Paul said, “So whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.”

Don’t do your work at your job just for a paycheck, do it for the glory of God.

Don’t just keep your lawn nice for your neighbors, do it for the glory of God.

Don't serve at church because you don't want to get asked again by the pastor, do it for the glory of God.

When we are shaped and transformed by God, our motives become pure, and our lives reflect Christ.

So this is my challenge for you today: live for God's glory. Whatever that you want to accomplish today, ask God to help keep Him as the focus. Whether it's going to work, doing the dishes, teaching a class, or shopping for groceries, ask God for the heart and ability to do it for His glory.

When we live a life informed by God's Word and motivated by God's glory, people will see Christ in us. It's in those everyday moments that people will notice the difference Christ makes. And that is what it is all about.