

A Searching and Fearless Self Inventory



Big Idea Goal

That Mercy Hill Church would be made new as we follow the One who is making all things new!



Sermon Text

Revelations 3:14-22



Big Idea

Realizing our inadequacy, we continuously turn away from self-reliance to humble God-reliance, leading to a deeper and more intimate communion with the Lord

Savior and not Lord (vs. 15)

Jesus cannot simply be Savior and not Lord. There is a hole in our great commission, where we have somehow omitted the necessity of being conformed into His image. Question for you - do you take seriously your apprenticeship to Christ? Are we consistently inclined to be more sensitive and receptive to Christ?

The Wretched Ones (vs. 15-17)

Our sense of self-sufficiency is nauseous unto God just like lukewarm water was to Laodicea. We are cripples who need the crutch that is Christianity. We are the wretched ones par excellence. Why? Precisely because we think we are not wretched nor blind nor naked.

In Christ Alone (vs. 18)

Jesus is essentially calling us to make an exchange - to transfer our self-reliance (or other-reliance) to God-reliance via the Cross. And such an exchange will cost you nothing and everything. It is an exchange where you come to accept Christ as both Savior and Lord.

An Invitation to Intimacy (vs. 19-21)

God loves you. It isn't hard for God to love you. Rather it is impossible for God to not love you. The King of Kings comes after a wretched unworthy soul. He presents himself seeking your audience, a continuous knocking on the door of your heart, hoping for your positive response

All of Life is Repentance (vs. 19-22)

How can we a broken and wretched people keep up this intimacy with God, knowing we are sinners? We do this by holding two truths together

- We are more sinful and flawed in ourselves than we ever dared believe.
- Yet at the very same time we are more loved and accepted in Jesus Christ than we ever dared hope.

This is what empowers us to truly live out the truth that all of the Christian life is Repentance.



Homework

- Carry out a consistent self-reflective exercise. This could be done at the end of the day, where you review your day with God and notice where you might have missed him or responded to him. You could also review your strong emotions whether positive and/or negative and review that with God.
- Write your thoughts in a journal.
- What are you noticing over time in your review? More of the fruit of the Spirit or the works of the flesh?
- You could do this practice over a period of time (a day, week, month, year, decades, etc.) or seasons of your life.
- Talk about it with your spouse or trusted friends.