

The ONE Voice
"Surviving, Part 2"
PASTOR CRAIG SWEENEY
May 2, 2021

Thread: _____ **Jesus as our highest goal of thought and action brings breakthrough clarity.**

If you cling to your life, you will lose it; but if you give up your life for me, you will find it.

Matthew 10:39 NLT

My way

- Thoughts
- Time
- Singleness/Marriage
- Raising Children
- Antagonistic People
- Offenses/Wounds
- Life Impact/Purpose

Way of Jesus

- Thoughts
- Time
- Singleness/Marriage
- Raising Children
- Antagonistic People
- Offenses/Wounds
- Life Impact/Purpose

⁸...he humbled himself in obedience to God and died a criminal's death on a cross.

⁹Therefore, God elevated him to the place of highest honor and gave him the name above all other names,

¹⁰that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

¹¹and every tongue declare that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

...Work hard to show the results of your salvation, obeying God with deep reverence and fear. ¹³For God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases him.

¹⁴Do everything without complaining and arguing, ¹⁵so that no one can criticize you. Live clean, innocent lives as children of God, shining like bright lights in a world full of crooked and perverse people. ¹⁶Hold firmly to the word of life; then, on the day of Christ's return, I will be proud that I did not run the race in vain and that my work was not useless. ¹⁷But I will rejoice even if I lose my life, pouring it out like a liquid offering to God, just like your faithful service is an offering to God. And I want all of you to share that joy. ¹⁸Yes, you should rejoice, and I will share your joy.

Philippians 2:8-18 NLT

Insights from Paul's own words:

"...to live is Christ and to die is gain."

Philippians 1:21 NIV

"...poured out like a drink offering."

Philippians 2:17 NIV

... I am ready not only to be jailed at Jerusalem but even to die for the sake of the Lord Jesus." ... "The Lord's will be done."

Acts 21:11-14 NLT

Someone who took the words of Jesus FOR others and himself so seriously that he could:

- _____ the ONE VOICE guiding him.
- _____ Jesus even with oppressive odds against him.
- Offer hope to people _____ to like/love.
- Offer hope to people he's not _____ to like/love.
"...our citizenship is in heaven"
Philippians 3:20 NIV
- _____ hope to those losing it.
"Paul sent for the disciples...encouraging them."
Acts 20:1 NIV

Challenge:

- Who are you taking the words of Jesus seriously FOR? (3 for 30)
 - Hard to like/love?
 - Not supposed to like/love?
- Whose cup of hope are you helping refill?
- If you didn't have to *survive* your current struggles, what clarity appears?

Check out these FREE online studies from Doug Britton for further study:

Hearing Jesus — Prepare Your Heart

www.dougbrittonbooks.com/resources/prepare-heart

Please Jesus — No Matter What

www.dougbrittonbooks.com/resources/please-god

Be an Encourager

www.dougbrittonbooks.com/resources/encourage-others

Life Group Homework

For the week of May 2, 2021

MY STORY

- 1) If you had a parrot in your home that talked, what would the most common phrase it would say? (Be sure to say it like a parrot would!)
- 2) What are you most looking forward to right now?

QUICK REVIEW

- 3) What was your takeaway from Sunday's message?

DIGGING DEEPER/ TAKING IT HOME

⁸ And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. ⁹ Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

¹² Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, ¹³ for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

¹⁴ Do all things without grumbling or disputing, ¹⁵ that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, ¹⁶ holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. ¹⁷ Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. ¹⁸ Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.

Philippians 2:8-18 ESV

- 4) How does Paul tell the Philippian church to obey, and what example does he use?
- 5) Fear and trembling sounds like we are supposed to shake in our boots. The Greek is more nuanced than English with this word; it could be translated as "reverence." How does that change the picture?
- 6) Is the fear referred to here a bad thing? What else could it mean?
- 7) In Verse 13 what does God do in us and for us? How can we reconcile that with the previous verse to work out our salvation with fear and trembling?

¹⁶ So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. ¹⁷ By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world. ¹⁸ There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love. ¹⁹ We love because he first loved us.

1 John 4:16-19 ESV

- 8) What does the apostle John have to say about the relationship between fear and love?
- 9) Where are you personally with this issue of fearing the Lord and being perfected in love? How does this help you listen to the One voice?

CHAIR TIME TOOL

We have been walking through thoughts about how to change our thinking and find the peace that surpasses our understanding. This week pray about God's love and search for the passages that reflect His love. Ask the following questions and think about the answers.

- 1) How much does God love you?
- 2) What does it mean for you to be perfected in love?
- 3) Who can you share His love with?

Summit Up Devotionals:

- 4) Tune in to our daily devotionals to be inspired and encouraged. Our team shares insights into scripture along with their personal stories. These short videos offer real hope for real people and will help you in your journey of becoming a fully devoted follower of Jesus. Join us for a few minutes each weekday as we experience God together.

Sign-up at heightschurchonline.com/daily-devotionals/ to have them delivered to your inbox. Also available through our church app and Facebook page.