

Sermon Title: *Trusting God With Our Lives*

Speaker: Pastor Damian Mericka

Series: Stand Alone

Text: Supporting Scripture

## I. Do We Trust God? (Genesis 3)

There is this idea that if I pursue the things that I want, I will be happy and have a satisfying life. We hear this all the time, even in pockets of people following Jesus- things such as *follow your heart, do what makes you happy, do you.*

If this life was all there was, perhaps this would be true. Right? Think about it. If this is all there is, why live without something you want? Why do life *without* something you desire?

The primary problem with this is- **we were created for more than ourselves.** And there is more to life than the world we see and live in. Walking with God our Father is the true source of all the things He created us to desire. Doing life with Him is the only way we can ever find true joy in this world that is broken by sin.

And this is the small print no one reads when choosing to be their own gods.

Because mankind chose sin, chose themselves as the better god, they became disconnected from God. The paradise they knew was gone, and life was now going to be completely different. Three ways Genesis tells us that life changed are:

- 1) God's enemy is now a part of our story. It is no longer just us and God, but now God, sin (satan / opposing powers), and us. The enemy will become in the place of God for many people, bringing the death God's absence leaves.
- 2) Women will experience the pain of bringing new life into this world.
- 3) Men will experience:
  - a. Doubt that they can be trusted. As they doubted God and felt they would be better gods', God is now inviting Adam to feel the pain of betrayal that He feels. (God does this often; invites us into His emotions)
  - b. He will work hard in a world now groaning in pain because of his actions.

## II. Not Trusting God Enough to Let Go. (Genesis 4)

*-Malachi 1:6-8*

- 1) God asks Cain to come into his heart through confession of his sin. Cain refuses. God encounters a closed door into Cain's life. God is a Father rejected.
- 2) Three things happen next:
  - a. God reveals to Cain that He already knows what happened.
  - b. The death his body is destined for will now be tasted by his soul as he can no longer do what he loves- *that which he could never trust God to be God over.*
  - c. He is disconnected from his family now and forced out of his home, as were his parents from the Garden.

- 3) Cain, even amidst this judgment of consequence appeals to God as the Judge, not as his Father. *I don't want you in my life God, but I deserve better than being thrown to the wolves!*
- 4) God, a rejected Father, still reveals that He will care for Cain. A mark on Cain will ensure swift consequence if any brings him harm. Consequence from who? God the rejected Father who, **though is sent away, knows exactly where he is at.**

III. Trusting God with Our Lives Today for Tomorrow (1 Corinthians 15:42-28)

- 1 John 4:7-13

The life God gives us comes from His love for us, to us, and through us. There is no greater demonstration of God's love toward us than Jesus. To receive Him is to receive the Father in our lives, in the place He alone was ever meant to fill.

- To receive Jesus as **Savior** means that we embrace that only God can bring us back to Himself.
- To receive Jesus as **Healer** means that only God can defeat sin, remove its affects and ultimately restore all that it took.
- To receive Jesus as our **Sanctifier** means that only God can come in and transform us; walking with us as His children on into the maturity of His anointing over our lives.
- To receive Jesus as **King** means that we embrace and acknowledge that God alone is God and worthy of our

praise, worship, and adoration no matter what He chooses to do in any moment of any day.

-1 Corinthians 15:42-58

-John 6:60-71

GOING DEEPER

**This week read 1 John and 2 Peter. If you did from last week, read them again.**