

WHO'S YOUR ONE? ARE YOU PROCRASTINATING?

GRACE
FELLOWSHIP

LUKE 16:19-31

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THERE IS AN EXPIRATION DATE.

Procrastination (noun): the action of delaying or postponing something.

Tomorrow (noun): a mystical land where 99% of all human productivity, motivation, and achievement is stored.

Why procrastination is not an option

- The rich man and the Lazarus (a poor man) both died – 16:19-21 *There was a rich man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day.²⁰ And at his gate was laid a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores,²¹ who desired to be fed with what fell from the rich man's table. Moreover, even the dogs came and licked his sores.*

Luke 16:13-14

*No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.¹⁴ The Pharisees, **who were lovers of money**, heard all these things, and they ridiculed him.*

- The rich man's god (money) couldn't save him when he really **needed** a God.
- Hell is a place of **suffering** – 16:24 *and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus at his side. And he called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the end of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in anguish in this flame.'*
- Hell is a place of **regret** – 16:25a *But Abraham said, 'Child, remember...*
- Hell is a place of **separation** – 16:26 *And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been fixed, in order that those who would pass from here to you may not be able, and none may cross from there to us.'*

- Hell is a place of **finality** – 16:27-31 *And he said, ‘Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father’s house— ²⁸ for I have five brothers—so that he may warn them, lest they also come into this place of torment.’ ²⁹ But Abraham said, ‘They have Moses and the Prophets; let them hear them.’ ³⁰ And he said, ‘No, father Abraham, but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.’ ³¹ He said to him, ‘If they do not hear Moses and the Prophets, neither will they be convinced if someone should rise from the dead.’ ”*

Q: If Lazarus wasn’t allowed to go back and tell others, then who will tell them?

A: People who share God’s Word. Why? God’s Word > emotional experience.

Helps to guide our friends to Jesus

- Objection: “There are no Christians in my family. My family’s/culture’s religion is...”
 - Families love and want the best for each other. So, if your parents were not followers of Jesus, they would want you to follow Jesus now, if He is truly the Savior.
 - How far back has your family/culture followed this set of beliefs?
 - Research “Original Monotheism.” Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, cults, etc. have a start date. Original Monotheism goes back to the beginning.
- Objection: “I’m not a church person. I’m not that into church.”
 - What is a “church person” to you?
 - What do you think happens during church?
 - Did a church leader or church offend you? People will let you down, but Jesus will never let you down.
 - Hypocrites confirm Jesus’ words (Matthew 7:21).

Next Steps

- Invite one person to dinner this year (in your home or at a restaurant) and share your testimony/faith journey.
- Bring someone to Grace this year: Will you be a Philip or an Andrew? #FriendDay (Sunday, February 16, 2020).