

Title: Whatever is Admirable

Text: Philippians 4:8-9, Genesis 12:1-3, Genesis 1:27-28, Luke 6:27-31

Date: February 16, 2020

WARM-UP QUESTIONS:

1. Who do you most admire in your life? How have they impacted you?
2. Who, in your family or workplace, do you feel blessed by? In what ways have they done so?
3. What is the definition of “contempt” and “disgust”? How can they make an “impenetrable” wall in relationships?

REFLECTION QUESTIONS:

1. Read Eph. 2:8-10. What difference does it make to work for our salvation versus toward our salvation? As saved sinners, how can your character be the witness of the good news of Jesus through our actions and not just good deeds accumulated for our salvation?
2. What does it cost you personally when you choose to love someone that you formerly felt contempt for?
3. In 1 Corinthians 10:23, Paul talks about how everything is permissible but not everything is beneficial. What does it mean? How does this apply to our spiritual practices?
4. When Jesus ate with the tax collectors as seen in Matthew 9, how was that an example of something admirable? What did it cost Jesus to do that?

APPLICATION QUESTIONS:

1. How can you bring blessings upon the people around you using the love languages (words of affirmation, acts of service, gifts received, quality time, physical touch) this week? How can you bless your work through your admirable actions?
2. As a community, how can we stand united to act on behalf of those against us? How can we treat those who oppose the faith we profess?
3. Think of a person who you cannot stand to be with and who may feel likewise about you. What would it cost you to bridge that relationship gap? Pastor Jonathan talked about “proximity” and “embrace” as steps to do that. How would that translate in your situation?
4. In our current political climate, how do we bridge the political gap with friends (or former friends) who differ greatly in their views from yours?