

“The Waldo God’s Been Looking For”

Matthew 7:7-14

March 10, 2019

Sermon Series: “7 Words to Change Your Life”

Rev. Dr. Henry Hansen

THE BIG IDEA

This message introduced Lent and delved into what it means for us to seek God. Biblically, seeking God begins with a profession of faith and acknowledging our need of God’s grace for our sin. We need his grace to deliver our lives and enable us to do good works. Seeking isn’t earning, finding, or accepting our own way, but rather pursuing God with an open posture of receiving his grace. We’re in need of grace in the Christian life, start to finish. The original Waldo figure, disheveled and disoriented, is an image of us in need of God.

GETTING STARTED

1. What’s a tradition you may have in your family or personal life that involves some type of seeking? (Ex: hide and go seek, an Easter egg hunt, etc.) Describe that experience and why it’s important.
2. What’s behind this week’s sermon title?

LEARNING & LIVING OUT SCRIPTURE

Together, read Matthew 7:7-14.

3. According to Jesus, why is prayer important? How are verses 7-12 related to 13 and 14?
4. What’s significant about this passage occurring at the end of the Sermon on the Mount?
5. Consider the concepts of “gate,” “road,” and “destruction.” What does Jesus have to do with either the road or the gate? Consider this in context of the Sermon on the Mount.
6. How do this passage and the message preached challenge you to think about sin, confession, and our need to be in a constant posture of receiving God’s grace?
7. Read Psalm 27: 4-8. Why is being in the presence of God an important aspect of seeking? How do these verses tie into the passage from Matthew 7?
8. Consider also this quote by John Piper: “Living in his presence means more than that God is everywhere. It’s having a continual consciousness of his greatness and beauty and worth.”

LIVING OUT “REAL LIFE”

9. How will you practice the 40 days of silence during Lent for 10 minutes a day? How will your “what ifs” and “if onlys,” as described in the sermon, relate to your quiet time of stillness before God?

THE “EXTRA-MILE”

10. Maintain a high commitment to the 40 Day Challenge of 10 minutes a day of silence/stillness. Journal your experience.

SHARING & PRAYER REQUESTS

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

New Morning Mercies – a daily devotional by Paul David Tripp