

DAY ONE

GENESIS 1:1-5

"In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. And God said, Let there be light: and there was light. And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness. And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day." Genesis 1:1-5 KJV

June 5, 2016

Introduction

"Life is full of surprises." "Time stands still for no one." "The only constant in life is change."

Of course you have heard these statements before, and many more.

Life is full of surprises, that no one can deny. Our best laid plans can be foiled by the simplest of events. I wanted to be an architect. I studied four years to be an architect. I never spent one hour in college or on the payroll of an architectural firm. Life is funny like that.

Time stands still for no one...I cannot believe that this year is half over. Can you remember your first day in high school...a freshman walking in the same hallways as seniors?

The only constant in life is change – and this truth is consistently demonstrated in each of our lives. And while most people do not like change, change happens, you might as well get used to it.

On that note, most people do not like a change in their routine. There is comfort in things going the same way, every time. For you, your routine is now changed forever. You will no longer drive to your old high school, park in the same parking lot, and see the same faces that you have known for the past four years.

Your routine will be broken and changed many times in your life.

Slide One "You are one decision away from a totally different life."

I am going to leave that on for the rest of the message. It is a sobering thought and the depth of truth is undeniable.

Day One

There was a Day One for all of creation. Before the sun, moon and stars, there was nothing. However when the time came for a change, God spoke:

"Let there be light." There had never been light before...only a void of darkness.

Luke 14:28, For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and counteth the cost, whether he have sufficient to finish it?

Five things I have learned about beginning a new.

1. It is Easy and Difficult at the same time.
2. Starting over at Day One requires an evaluation of your life, motives, desires and answers to "Why am I DOING / or NOT DOING" this. Are my plans consistent? Does my daily journey match my five year goals?
3. Don't count on everyone agreeing with your decision. Remember, this is your life and not theirs. Everyone and I mean everyone, has an opinion about how you are to live your life...especially those that are not part of your support group.
4. Contrary to opinions, Seek wise counsel from lots of differing views and backgrounds. There is a Biblical premise for this:

Proverbs 11:14 Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety.

Psalms 119:24 Thy testimonies also are my delight and my counsellors.

5. Most importantly, confirm with God and get His approval.

Conclusion

I don't think there is a single person that hasn't asked, "I wonder how my life might be different if I would have _____." Fill in the blank. "Studied harder." "Chose my friends differently." "chose a different school or vocation." "been more selective in my boy or girl friends."

I have often wondered what the lives of my children would have been if I had taken that transfer to Washington DC rather than staying in Arlington. (explain what happened in Trinity)

You have your whole lives in front of you. Your decisions will lead to actions, which will become your life. It will be your decisions, good and bad that will define who you are. "Choose wisely."

Psalms 27:4 One *thing* have I desired of the LORD, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to inquire in his temple.