

Sermon: Death to Life

Date: 12/23/18

Speaker: Albert Tate

Connect

Question of the Day. Highs and Lows. Share how last week's message influenced your week.

Last week, Pastor Tiana exhorted us to *obey, believe, and engage* the Word. What did it look like to take hold of your "assignment" this past week?

Engage: Sermon Review + Discussion

Read the Scripture Passage. Recap of the Message.

Read John 10:10 together as a LifeGroup. This is the fourth and final week of our Advent series, "Hope Has Come," a 4-week journey to the birth of Christ. In today's passage, we take a closer look at Jesus, the son of the Living God.

Discussion Questions

Pastor Albert shared the hope that has come through Jesus Christ! This hope is not about going from *bad to better*-- it is about going from *death to life*. God invites you to a hope that is marked with abundant life. There are three things you need to know about the reality of this "life":

1. *Reality of death:* Satan's purpose and plan is to rob us of this life and bring us to death. His strategy draws us to counterfeit gods instead of the "Great Original, by keeping us in sin. Where are the dead places in your life? What are the relationships that bring death? What are the sins, habits and comparisons that lead you to death? What does the fruit of your life say?
2. *The "But" is there for a reason:* The reality of death is bleak, but God has a purpose for your life! Jesus came so that you might have life. Jesus Christ paid the price so we could have the hope of the world! How can you experience the "but," the Divine Interruption in your life today?
3. *Jesus gives us an invitation for saturation:* Jesus gives us a culmination of hope-- from his birth to the tomb, to the resurrection. In baptism, we identify with the death of Christ. We are out with the old, and we rise with the newness of Christ! What is God asking you to "leave in the water"? What are the new beginnings you sense God is inviting you into?

Apply: Next Faithful Step

Pastor Albert said Jesus gives us an invitation to be saturated with the love and glory of God. When we embrace and trust this invitation, it changes how we look and how we walk. Have you been baptized? What would it look like for you to take that next step today? As you look at the various areas of your life (i.e. family, work, ministry, school, relationships, etc.), what are some things God may be inviting you to "leave in the water" this week?

Prayer

Take some time to hear prayer requests from each member of your LifeGroup. As you lean into the hope of Jesus coming this Advent season, pray for one another, for your families, communities, our church, and the world.