

The Downward Call of God

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Description

Most of us want to be recognized, valued, and seen as someone of consequence. This is true in a culture that highly values status and accomplishment. It is also true within the church. This session will explore Jesus' radical alternative to a pitfall that can so easily neutralize us from a life of fruitful ministry and promises true honor.

Introduction

People want to be recognize, "seen", valued.

Our Cultural Context

The times we live in:

The legacy of "rugged individualism"

The legacy of the "boomer" generation

Corporate ladder climbing

The rise of "identity politics" and the fight for rights

The base nature of man – "the boastful pride of life" 1 John 2:16

Result – alienated, unhappy people striving for respect...

Church Culture

Who we honor

Favoritism or the appearance of it

Gifting and capacity

Meritocracy

Our yet to be perfected nature

So many neutralized

Jesus' Radical Alternative

Luke 14:7-11

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1 Peter 5:6

Freedom, fruitfulness and reward

Freedom from:

Freedom for:

Freedom is energizing

Fruitfulness

Focus on the true rewarder

Application

In:

Ministry

Outreach/engaging our culture

At work or school

In friendships

In the family

An additional perspectival safeguard

Luke 17:7-10