



WHAT

SAY

YOU



Touching Lives
with James Merritt

WHAT SAY YOU?

Touching Lives with Dr. James Merritt

Series Summary

When you think about it, life revolves around making decisions and answering questions.

Some decisions are minor, and some decisions are major. Some questions can be answered quickly and easily and regardless of what answer you give, it won't have much of an impact on your life. But there are three questions that we are all forced to answer, and three decisions we are all forced to make that not only have the greatest impact on the time we have on this earth but any impact we are going to have once we leave it. In this series I am calling "What Say You?" we are going to look at those three great questions and we're going to dive into what God's Word says are the three correct answers.

What Lord Am I Going To Love?

What Say You? | Week 1 | Matthew 22:34-40

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

1. Who or what would you say is the lord you love most right now?
2. Are you currently living a life of obedience to Christ, or have you been disobedient and rebelling against God's Word and His plan for your life?
3. What is one way you can love another person selflessly this week?

What Life Am I Going To Live?

What Say You? | Week 2 | John 10:10

INTRODUCTION

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What did Jesus mean by “the abundant life” in today’s key verse? I know what He didn’t mean. It is not a life that is found in stuff, money, possessions, or financial security. When Jesus called the disciples to follow Him, every one of them left everything behind. Even though He promised them an abundant life, He never offered them financial security, physical comfort, a retirement plan, health insurance, and certainly no health and wealth gospel. He didn’t even promise them a long life because many of them died early. Here is what He meant. The abundant life (the only life worth living) is a life lived in, through, and for Jesus. In this message, we are going to learn from these disciples as we think about how to live the only life worth living.

KEY POINTS

1. I Want To Live My Life Enjoying The Presence Of Jesus
Think about what these disciples had done every single day of their lives for three years. They enjoyed the presence of Jesus almost without a break – 365 days a year, 24/7 for 3 years, they walked with Jesus, talked with Jesus, and laid down beside him at night. They sat at His feet during the day. They listened to His teachings, watched His actions, and followed His footsteps.

We can do the very same thing, every day of the year, and every day of every year, until we leave this life and enter into eternal life, which simply means then being in the full presence of God face-to-face for all eternity.

You see, because of Jesus, everywhere you go you always go with God. Can you tell me anything that is greater in life than knowing that you always go with God and God always goes with you? Knowing that when you open up His Word, He is going to speak to you? Knowing that when you open up your mouth, He is going to listen to you? You may not always be with the people that you love the most, but the One who loves you the most and loves you more than anybody else will always be with you.

What Life Am I Going To Live?

What Say You? | Week 2 | John 10:10

2. I Want To Live My Life Trusting The Provision Of Jesus

Jesus called very different men to be his disciples. They came from different backgrounds, different walks of life, different professions, different interests, and different ambitions. Every disciple had one thing in common, though, when they met Jesus and when Jesus asked them to follow Him. They left everything. They left their jobs. They left the only way they had to make a living and left the only way they had to feed their families.

Yet, we never read about the disciples missing a meal or going hungry. They always had a place to sleep, and they never lacked clothing. The only thing they did have was the calling of Jesus on their life and with it the assumption that He would meet their needs. For the next three years, though they maybe didn't realize it at the time and probably took it for granted, they learned that wherever Jesus leads, He meets the needs. Wherever Jesus guides, He provides!

Directly and honestly, I am not promising anybody that Jesus will always give you everything you want. As a matter of fact, I hope He doesn't. I'm really glad He didn't give me everything I wanted. But just as the shepherd is completely responsible for feeding sheep and leading sheep, Jesus has promised He will supply all of our needs. All He asks from us is that we trust Him to do that.

3. I Want To Live My Life Fulfilling The Purpose Of Jesus

Following Jesus often comes with sacrifice. The disciples are proof of that. If you read the Bible, you'll learn that all of the disciples died relatively young and almost all of them died relatively a violent death. However, we are here today talking about those disciples and studying their teaching and their lives because they had life and they had it abundantly. They fulfilled the purpose that God had for them. If you want to know the truth – the only thing that gives life real value is a purpose that is greater than and will outlive your life.

NOTES

What Life Am I Going To Live?

What Say You? | Week 2 | John 10:10

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

1. How do you experience and enjoy the presence of Jesus each day?
2. When was a time God provided for you as you were following Him?
3. What would you say is the purpose God has given you for your life? Are you living out that purpose right now? And if not, what is holding you back from fulfilling that purpose?

What Legacy Am I Going To Leave?

What Say You? | Week 3 | 2 Timothy 4:6-8

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

1. When was a time you felt under attack and had to fight back with your faith?
2. Has your faith ever been questioned? If so, how did you respond?
3. Have you ever quit running your race, or even just been tempted to quit running? What is one verse of Scripture you can hold onto that will help you persevere when you want to give up?
