

The Who/Do Dance | Doug Wekenman | 1.26.19 Weekly Study

START

To get things started, go around the circle and answer the following question:

If a movie was made of your life what genre would it be, who would play you?

SHARE

Welcome to Week Four of 167. There are 168 hours in a week, and you only spend one of those in church. This series is designed to help you use the one hour in church to follow Jesus in the other 167. Christianity is not about creating churchgoers; it's about building Jesus followers. The calling of Jesus is to follow him in every part and every hour of your life!

This week Doug talked about the relationship between knowing who we are and learning to act like it is true. Before we dive in, take some time to check in with your group by answering the following questions:

Now that we are at the end of January, how are your New Year's Resolutions going? Did you set any? Have you stuck with them?

What was the best part of your week? What was the most challenging part of your week?

Choose three words to describe how you are currently feeling about your relationship with God. Why did you choose those words?

GROW

Read Galatians 6:7-9

What do you know about Galatians? Who wrote it? Who was he writing to? How does that context impact these three verses?

We all want to grow and change, but transformation doesn't happen simply from trying harder, it has to start with knowing who we are. When we understand what God says about us, then the health, discipleship, sobriety, etc. will naturally follow. The "who" leads the "who-do dance."

It's important to know this when reading Galatians, because if you read this passage out of context, it may sound like Paul is saying that salvation comes from our works. Galatians 6 is the very end of a passionate letter about the exact opposite message. Paul was reminding the church in Galatia that we aren't saved by our good behavior; we are saved by the work of Jesus on the cross.

In other words, Paul understood the "who/do dance." The motivation for our good behavior is not fear of hell; our motivation for our good behavior is a desire to live a freer life! Paul is saying that our actions still matter, not because we are in danger of losing our salvation, but because we reap what we sow (Galatians 6:7).

Scripture says, "we reap what we sow." What is one way you have seen this work out in a positive way in your life? What is one way you have seen this work out in a negative way?

MOVE

Read Deuteronomy 30:19-20

What do you think it means to "choose life"?

What does it look like for you personally to "choose life" over this next decade?

This passage is at the very end of the Torah (the first five books of the Bible). In these five books, God has been reminding His people how much better their lives will be if they obey His laws. Remember, God is the hero of this story! Since the beginning, He has been writing His story of redemption. But along the way, He has given us the free will to decide to obey or disobey. The passage we just read is a reminder that life is much more enjoyable when we follow His way!

Every financial planner knows the secret to saving money, is putting a little bit away every week over several years. As Albert Einstein once said, "Compound interest is the 8th wonder of the world. He who understands it, earns it; he who doesn't, pays it." Our actions work the same way. Transformation may not happen overnight, but small steps in the right direction over a long period will yield amazing results!

This year, you have an opportunity to choose life. But it isn't a one-time decision. It is a constant, everyday choice. A really good way to succeed is to write down the ways you are going to choose life this year and share them with your peers. Let's take some time to do that together.

Step 1: Write down three ways you are going to choose life this year (reading through the bible in a year, praying every day, attending group every week, eating healthy, kicking a habit, etc.)

#1:

#2:

#3:

Step 2: Take some time to share the three things you wrote down with the rest of your group. This can be a scary exercise, but there is power in saying it out loud!

PRAY

As a group, spend some time praying with and for each other. If you are in a coed group, consider breaking up into men and women's groups to share more freely.

TO GO

Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop--a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown. - Matthew 13:8