

August 21st, Thinking of You
Part 2 in the series 'Thinking for a Change'

What were some things from Sunday's message that resonated with you?

Was there anything you wrestled with?

Were you surprised when Jim revealed the secret acts of megachurch pastors?

Do you agree that a part of us loves to hate? Why or why not?

Read Romans 12:2-3

“2 Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will. 3 For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you.”

What does it mean to think of yourself with sober judgment?

In what ways do we tend to think of ourselves as “kind of a big deal”?

Read Psalm 39:5

“You have made my days a mere handbreadth; the span of my years is as nothing before you. Everyone is but a breath, even those who seem secure.”

Read Psalm 62:9

“Common people are as worthless as a puff of wind, and the powerful are not what they appear to be. If you weigh them on the scales, together they are lighter than a breath of air.”

Read Psalm 103:15-16

“Our days on earth are like grass; like wildflowers, we bloom and die. 16 The wind blows, and we are gone - as though we had never been here.”

Read James 4:14

“Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. ”

So, do you still think you're kind of a big deal?

Jim said that one of the first things you learn when you follow Jesus is that you are not the star of the show. What do you think of the idea that you are playing a supporting role, not the lead role?

If the star of the show, Jesus, came to serve others, what does that mean for our supporting roles?

Why do you think caring for other people is so helpful in healing one's own pain?

What did you think about CS Lewis' distinction between unselfishness and love?

Since we are all like blades of grass, do we have any significance? If so, where does it come from?

John Stott said "The essence of sin is man substituting himself for God, while the essence of salvation is God substituting himself for man. Man asserts himself... and puts himself where only God deserves to be; God sacrifices himself... and puts himself where only man deserves to be."

What do you think of that quote?