
[SERMON NOTES]

Our Way or God's Way (*Proverbs 14:12; John 10:10, 14:6; Matthew 7:24-29*)

Your dominant _____ of "the good life" will _____ your life.

God's ways are _____.

God's ways are _____.

_____ ways are _____ than _____.

We believe God's ways _____ the way.

_____ isn't in the way, _____ is the _____.

The _____ we crave is found in the _____ we avoid.

When we _____ the _____ of Jesus and _____ in the
_____ of Jesus, we will _____ the _____
that Jesus has for us.

[QUICK REVIEW]

Looking at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or something that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

[MY STORY]

This weekend we talked about the different ways we might think or believe living God's way is restrictive. **Which of these below would you say you struggle or did struggle with the most in the past, and why?**

God's agenda isn't what's best for me... God is a cosmic kill-joy.... I know better than God.

Which do you think is probably the most prevalent in our world today? Are there any other reasons you think are common for struggling to live God's way?

[DIGGING DEEPER]

Sometimes in our faith, we fail to see *Jesus as THE way* to living the 'good life,' and instead see it as *Jesus is IN the way* of the good life. **When you think of the times you thought of Jesus "in the way" of your ideal good life, what were some of those areas?**

Sometimes we forget that rules or guardrails are given out of love and the foreknowledge of what's best for us. However, just *knowing* what is right doesn't help us live the good life - we have to actually put it into practice. But, the first step is often believing and trusting that *obedience brings freedom*. **Read the passages below and comment on the obedience in living God's way all disciples are called to embody. And then circle the one that challenges you the most.**

1 Timothy 4:7-8

Romans 8:1-8

James 1:22-25

1 Corinthians 8:1-3

Proverbs 4:23

At FIRST, we desire for our church family to become well-rounded disciples of Jesus. We often discuss the three main values for a disciple to have a growing balance of: *head knowledge, heart change, and helpful accountability*.

- **Head Knowledge** : an understanding of God, Scripture, and life God's way
- **Heart Change** : following the power and conviction of the Holy Spirit to live out a sanctified life
- **Helpful Accountability** : intentionally surrounding ourselves with others in grace-based relationships to stir one another to further commitment to following Jesus with our lives

Which of these areas do you feel like you do well? Which of these areas needs more work or attention for you this year?

Write out one tangible action step you can take to help you grow in the area noted above: