



THE MAIN THING

• KEEPING JESUS AT THE CENTER •

The Main Thing

John 15:12-17

Have you ever heard the phrase, “Keep the main thing the main thing.”? This is an important thing to keep in mind with so many things in life. The challenging part with living this phrase out, is that we easily allow distractions to pull us away from the main thing. We do this in our own personal lives, but also in the church. When we don’t keep the main thing the main thing in the church, we allow outside voices and lower level issues divide us. Jesus must be the main thing, in each of our lives, but also in our church.

As our church begins a new season and transition, it’s important for us to be reminded of what this is really all about. Jesus set up the church for us and it’s ultimately about Him. When He’s the main thing, everything else falls into place. For the first few weeks we are going to look at John 15, and what this can look like in our own lives. Then, we will look at some writings in the early church, and what it can look like for us as a church community to “keep the main thing the main thing.”

- As you reflect on the message, what stood out to you? What is something you are still thinking about?
- What is something from the message that challenged you? How are you wrestling with that challenge?
- What question(s) do you have from the message?
- What is at least one practical takeaway from the message?

Main Passage:

John 15:12-17

12 This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. **13** Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. **14** You are my friends if you do what I command you. **15** No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you. **16** You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. **17** These things I command you, so that you will love one another

Questions for Group:

- What does “walking with Jesus” mean to you? What does that look like practically?
- Weaver shared with us in his sermon that Enoch, Noah, and Abraham are people who “walked with God.” What do their lives teach us about what it means to have an ongoing relationship with God?
- What makes it difficult for us to consistently love others the way Jesus loves us? What tends to get in the way?
- Jesus connects love with sacrifice in John 15:13. What are some ways we can “lay down our lives” for others in some practical ways?
- 1 John 4:19 says, “We love because He first loved us.” How does receiving and remembering God’s love affect the way we love other people?
- Jesus says, “You are my friends if you do what I command you” (v. 14). What is the command he gives us?
- Why do you think obedience can be so difficult even when we long to be friends of Jesus?

- How do verses 15 and 16 connect to Jesus being the “true vine” that we talked about last week?
- If someone watched your life for a week, what evidence might they see that you are walking with Jesus?
- What evidence would you like to be evident in your life?
- Are there any new areas that you are releasing to Jesus? Do you feel like you were able to release the areas you brought up last week?
- What are some areas where you are seeking to abide with Jesus? Were you able to abide with Jesus last week?