

Discussion Questions from Keller, chapter 10

Some obvious discussion starter questions are found in this Sermon.

1, The first is a series of questions that Keller asks in the quote I included about worship:

"Have you ever had that kind of experience? When the compassion and love of another person helped you deal with your suffering? When someone's unconditional approval and encouragement transformed your fear into resolve? When an encounter with beauty seemed to neutralize your anxiety and give you hope?

And if you got that kind of help more often, wouldn't you be different? Wouldn't trouble make you wiser, deeper, and stronger instead of bitter and hard and joyless? Wouldn't suffering make you more compassionate, rather than more cynical about human nature? Wouldn't failure be more likely to be productive in your life? Of course it would.

But here's the question: How are you going to get more of that kind of approval, that kind of encouragement, that kind of love, without burning out your friends and family with your neediness?

The answer for us, as it was for the disciples, is worship."

2. The second is a related series of questions that I ask at the end of this message:

...I wonder how many of us come here with an expectation that we are going to see God today in worship? Or, do we come simply out of duty... out of habit, or routine? How would an expectation of seeing God change our attitude about worship? How would that expectation impress upon us the importance of our gatherings? How might that, over time, help us to see ourselves, and God, and others differently?

3. I didn't have time to explore the story of the healing of the boy in Mark 9, which Keller delves into at the end of chapter 10. But, do you see the connection between our ability to 'live the life', and worship? How is worship (or, how *can* worship) be a powerful weapon in our lives as we meet (with victory) the constant spiritual warfare and resistance of the Enemy in this world?