



LifeGroup Discussion Questions

Listen | October 15, 2023

Summary

Pastor Kyle Robinson is preaching for the next two weeks as part of the candidate process to be the next senior pastor at Wooddale Church. He is preaching a two-sermon series entitled *Receive over Achieve*. This week, Pastor Kyle preached that Jesus calls us to receive *from* Him, not achieve *for* Him. When we listen to Jesus, He gives us what we really need.

Scripture

A voice came from the cloud, saying, “This is my Son, whom I have chosen; listen to him.” -Luke 9:35 (NIV)

“Listen carefully to what I am about to tell you: The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men.” But they did not understand what this meant. It was hidden from them, so that they did not grasp it, and they were afraid to ask him about it. -Luke 9:44-45 (NIV)

As Jesus and his disciples were on their way, he came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to him. She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord’s feet listening to what he said. But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made. She came to him and asked, “Lord, don’t you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!” “Martha, Martha,” the Lord answered, “you are worried and upset about many things, but few things are needed — or indeed only one. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her.” -Luke 10:38-42 (NIV)

Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus lived, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. Here a dinner was given in Jesus’ honor. Martha served, while Lazarus was among those reclining at the table with him. Then Mary took about a pint of pure nard, an expensive perfume; she poured it on Jesus’ feet and wiped his feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, who was later to betray him, objected, “Why wasn’t this perfume sold and the money given to the poor? It was worth a year’s wages.” He did not say this because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief; as keeper of the money bag, he used to help himself to what was put into it. “Leave her alone,” Jesus replied. “It was intended that she should save this perfume for the day of my burial. -John 12:1-7 (NIV)

Let's Start

Pastor Kyle shared about his call to ministry in this sermon. What was something new you learned about him?

Gratitude and Prayer

How has God worked in your life since the last time we were together?

Let's Talk

1. What does the sermon series title, "Receive over Achieve," mean as the big idea?
2. Pastor Kyle discusses the story of Martha and Mary in Luke 10:38-42. Why do you think he chose this passage to illustrate the concept of "Receive over Achieve"? What insights did you gain from this passage?
3. Mary is praised for choosing what is better, which is listening to Jesus. How can we cultivate a habit of truly listening to God? Share practical ideas.
4. Pastor Kyle gave three signs of having an achievement orientation: being distracted, distressed and demanding. Can you relate to any of these signs? How?
5. Pastor Kyle emphasized the importance of making time to listen to God each day. How do you currently prioritize your time with God? What changes, if any, could you make to improve your listening to God's Word?
6. Have you ever had a moment when you felt God was speaking directly to you about a decision or direction in your life? How did you respond, and what was the outcome?

Let's Act

This is an exciting time in the life of Wooddale Church! Please be in prayer about the decision to call a new senior pastor. There are opportunities to ask Pastor Kyle questions and learn more about him on October 22 at noon and November 12 at noon. If you are a Wooddale Church member, you may vote on November 13 at the annual meeting (absentee ballots are available). Please pray for wisdom and discernment in the voting process and guidance for the Elders to faithfully lead Wooddale during this transition.
