WHERE WE FIND OURSELVES (as an assessment)

Where do we find ourselves?

WHERE WE FIND OURSELVES (a question)

Where do I find myself? (where I actually am & also how will I discover who I am to be?)

"To be human is to be animated and oriented by some vision of the 'good life.'" (Jamie Smith)

Matthew 5:6 NIV Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

FINDING YOURSELF

You find yourself at the end of desire.

We need a foundation that can support the weight of our desire.

WAY No. 1: WHERE WE FIND OURSELVES (An Assessment of our World)

VALUES & SYSTEMS

Where ever order emerges from chaos, you will find a system. Systems are often built on values that aren't the highest value.

The ordering of the world was for human flourishing in Genesis.

Isaiah 9:6-7 NIV

6 For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the *government* will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
7 Of the greatness of his *government* and peace there will be no end.
He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness (d*ikaiosyne*) from that time on and forever.

The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.

WHAT HAPPENS?

• We we feast on the tree of knowledge end up dependent upon the Law.

• The Law is insufficient to govern humans in the way we are truly designed to live.

WHAT IT TAKES TO LIVE

(the foundation of righteousness)

The need to know how we are to live is critical information for every person.

Plato: 375 BC Septuagint: 285 BC

Matthew 6:33 NIV

But seek first his kingdom and his *righteousness*,

2 Corinthians 5:21 NIV

God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

WAY No. 2: WHERE WE FIND OURSELVES (An Assessment of our Identity)

REORIENTING OURSELVES

The beatitudes introduce the character of the Kingdom and describe the surprising recipients of God's blessings.

OUR IDENTITY

We find ourselves at the end of what desire.

TAKE AN AUDIT

Audit Access

- What kinds of things have access to your head and heart?
- O What kinds of 'systems' monitor this access?

Audit Words

- What kinds of words come out of your mouth most easily?
- How careful are you with how your words affect others?
- How careful are you with how your words are consistent with what is actually real?
 - Are you prone to use words to manipulate to preserve, project, or protect a perception?
 - Are you prone to twist the words of others to get your way or prove your point?

Audit Allegiances

What kinds of allegiances do you hold that work against reconciliation?