

HINDSIGHT

WHAT IF I KNEW THEN WHAT I KNOW NOW?

Despite great wisdom and vision, often the clearest sight is when we look back on our lives and learn from experience. Hindsight can teach us what we need to know about the future. We do not look back in a spirit of regret or condemnation, but with a spirit of wisdom and hope.

THE COST

Every choice comes at a cost.

Looking back, there are some things we could have known. And looking back, there are some things we could never have known. But one thing is unfailingly true when seen through hindsight: every decision comes at a price and every choice has a cost. Making the decision is risky, but there are things that are more important than staying safe.

GOD IN REAL LIFE

This week, take the risk: let Him choose you. In return, do something every day to let the price He paid change you.

TO THE HEART

"Jesus remained outside in deserted places, and people kept coming to him from everywhere." Mark 1:45

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Would you rather leave your hometown never to return or stay in your hometown never to leave? Why?
2. Looking back over the last year, did you find yourself being guided by a lack of knowledge? Did you further find yourself making decisions based off of fear? Are there any decisions that you would have made differently now that you have lived through this last year, or are you happy with the decisions you've made? (Know that there is truly no "right" answer...we all have different levels of risk sensitivity.) Please share.
3. What is your perspective on a "safety first" approach to living? How do you respond to the idea that there is a significant difference between "minimizing risk" and "eliminating risk"? Are there areas in your life where you are more inclined to risk than others? Please share.
4. In the Gospel today, Jesus was willing to love to the point where He exchanged His place with the place of the leper. Have you ever experienced a love like this? Have you ever been loved to the point of sacrifice? Have you ever loved in this way?
5. Saying no to Jesus means an entire life of license (doing your will and not His), but it has no permanent value. Saying yes to Him means an entire life of loving obedience that echoes throughout eternity. Can Jesus be the Lord of your life? What does that look like on a practical level for you this week?