

Today's Theme

“Keeping Things Real”

Series Title:

“Staying Encouraged”

Part 26 10/25/20

Jesus Was Real

1. Jesus gives His *future* & His *demands*.

Luke 9:22 And he said, “The Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life.” 23 Then he said to them all: “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. 24 For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will save it.

2. Jesus *speaks* to the *religious*.

Matthew 23:27 “Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You are like whitewashed tombs, which look beautiful on the outside but on the inside are full of the bones of the dead and everything unclean. 28 In the same way, on the outside you appear to people as righteous but on the inside you are full of hypocrisy and wickedness.

What Being Real Is:

1. Being *authentic* & *genuine*.

2. Being *willing* to be *you*.

3. Being *honest* & *truthful*.

4. *Owning* up to what we've *done* & *do*.

What Being Real Gives To Others

1. It's the *right thing* to do.
2. It shows others *we care*.
3. It's a *sign of respect* for them.
4. It *invests* in the *relationship*.
5. People *trust* where they *stand*.

What's Needed To Be Real Jesus Style

1. It starts by *following Jesus*.

John 6:35 Then Jesus declared, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

James 1:5 If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.

2. We *give grace* to others.

Ephesians 4:29 Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.

Colossians 4:6 Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.

3. Our *giving of grace opens up love*.

1 John 4:7 Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. 8 Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. 9 This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. 10 This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. 1 Peter 4:8 Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins.