

GAME PLAN

The COACH // John 10:1-10 // Pastor Dwayne Smith

I. LIFE: We all want “life to the full.”

- a. Jesus knows what we want – full life.
 - i. He knows this, because this is how He made us (Psalm 139).
 - ii. Jesus was continually calling people back to Him to receive the life that they were intended to have. “...Though they were dead, yet shall they live...those that believe in me shall not perish but have everlasting life...”
- b. What is a “full life?”
 - i. What does a full life look like to you? (Write it down).
 - ii. Top 10 things people want in life but can’t seem to get: 1) Happiness, 2) Money, 3) Freedom, 4) Peace, 5) Joy, 6) Balance, 7) Fulfillment, 8) Confidence, 9) Stability, 10) Passion.¹
 - iii. Sound familiar? Fruit of the Spirit, Galatians 5:22-23, “But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.”
- c. Jesus’ definition of an “abundant life/full life.”
 - i. *Perissos*: exceeding some number or measure or rank or need; over and above, more than is necessary, superior, extraordinary...²
 - ii. A “full life” is one that never ends and cannot be destroyed.
 - iii. This is part of the attraction of Jesus, but there is a cost.
 1. High value = High cost.
 2. Step one: “Deny yourself and follow me” (Matthew 16:24).

II. The COACH: We need a COACH

- a. We need a Coach – the right one!
 - i. We can never fulfill our potential without coaching.
 - ii. “Good coaches:³
 1. Create a safe environment in which people see themselves.
 2. Identify gaps between where you are and where you need to be.

¹ https://www.huffingtonpost.com/kathy-caprino/the-top-10-things-people-_2_b_9564982.html

² Blue Letter Bible - <https://www.blueletterbible.org/lang/lexicon/lexicon.cfm?Strongs=G4053&t=KJV>

³ <https://www.forbes.com/sites/williamarruda/2014/12/09/why-you-need-to-hire-a-coach-in-2015/#24dc1baf6eb3>

3. Challenge them: Ask for more intentional thought, action, and behavior changes than they would have asked of themselves.
 4. Guides the building of the structure, accountability, and support necessary to ensure sustained commitment.”
- b. Everybody is following someone.
- i. Coaching Options—Jesus identifies two types:
 1. Thief: “comes only to kill steal and destroy” (v. 10). In it for themselves and your loss.
 2. Shepherd (Jesus): “I have come that you may have life to the full (abundant).” In it for your good, growth, and gain.

III. The COACH is calling you out.

- a. The COACH is addressing His players.
 - i. “The primary point of His metaphor had to do with the role of truth in the world...the truth became His means of drawing believers out of the world.” (Charles Swindoll)⁴
 - ii. Jesus never begged people to follow Him.
- b. The voice of a COACH is unmistakable; you know the voice of the COACH.
 - i. God is speaking.
 - ii. Why don’t we hear Him?
- c. The COACH has picked you! How have you responded?

Reflection Questions:

- Does my goal of a “full life” line up with where Jesus is calling me? Am I experiencing “life to the full” as Jesus intended, or just a “full life?”
- What do I need to let go of this year?
- What do I need to receive? Where do I need to engage? Where is God challenging me?
- Am I following Jesus? Do I know His voice?

⁴ Charles Swindoll, *Living Insights N. T. Commentary*, p. 203.