

Rush CREEK LOVES.

Rush Creek Loves Week 5 A Look Back

DO/WATCH THIS:

Begin your time together in worship:

<https://youtu.be/XKOoeTbjSeI?si=lOrkYGBAlOoOgimJ>

SAY THIS:

The line “*Let thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee*” captures something important about our discussion today: following Jesus is not merely deciding to do more religious things, instead it is allowing our hearts to be gathered back toward God. This song gives beautiful movement for our soul: Remembering what He’s done for us



Recognizing what he’s doing and calling us to



Returning to His heart



Going deeper in our obedience and relationship to God

ASK THIS:

Where are you in this progression these days? (Remembering, Recognizing, Returning, Trying to go deeper)

SERMON SERIES RECAP:

SAY THIS:

So, to review these past 3 weeks in our series Rush Creek Loves:
Our new vision: Rush Creek loves helping people find and follow Jesus.
We do this by living out our 3 practices:

- Loving God
- Loving People
- Living Sent

ASK THIS:

1. When you hear, “Rush Creek loves helping people find and follow Jesus,” where do you find yourself in that sentence right now? Are you finding Him, following Him, helping others find Him? Perhaps standing somewhere in between?
2. Looking back over the last season of your life, where have you seen yourself becoming more deeply rooted in loving God? What has drawn you toward Him, and what has quietly pulled you towards the shallows?

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3. Jesus seems to have a way of making the love of God inseparable from the love of people. Who has God placed in your life lately who may be inviting you to love more deeply, patiently, sacrificially?
4. "Living Sent" means that following Jesus cannot remain something we do only inside the walls of the church. Where has God already placed you? Home, work, neighborhood, school etc. Where do you sense he might be sending you?
5. If these three practices were not merely things we believed but a way we actually lived, what might begin to look different in your ordinary week?
6. Think back over the last year. Where have you settled for the shallows when you suspect Jesus is inviting you into deeper water? What do you think keeps you there?
7. Imagine yourself one year from now. If you had taken one faithful step deeper in Loving God, Loving People, and Living Sent, what might you hope would be different in you? Who might be different because you took that step?

CLOSE THE DISCUSSION BY READING THIS ALOUD:

The Peace of Wild Things by Wendell Berry

Stop. Notice. Relinquish control, and recover a deeper attentiveness to the world and what God might be asking of you. As I read this aloud ask yourself: *Where is Jesus inviting me to go deeper?*

<https://www.scottishpoetrylibrary.org.uk/poem/peace-wild-things-0/>

CLOSE THE SESSION BY READING THIS BLESSING ALOUD:

May you find the courage to leave the shallows,
the grace to follow where Jesus leads,
and the eyes to notice who is waiting along the way.

May you love God deeply,
love people generously,
and go where you are sent.

And may the life of Jesus in you
become good news to someone else.
Amen.