Imitate Jesus

Rob West

INTRODUCTION

- The thing that struck me when I was there in March that has still puzzled me is the number of impersonators that they have in Las Vegas.
- How much does the world, maybe us included sometimes, do we go through life impersonating somebody else?
- The world says they're about individuality and individualism, but what does the world want you to do? Conform.

1 We Matter to God

Psalm 103:13–18; Luke 15:4–7

- Remember what Psalm 103 says, starting in verse 13. As a father pities his children, so the Lord pities those who fear him, for he knows our frame. He remembers that we are dust.
- But the mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear him.
- So whenever we're thinking, we don't matter. We matter to God.
- God cares about you. And if God cares about you, it really shouldn't matter what I care about you.
- God's opinion is what matters. And if God knows us, that's important. We are important.

2 Instead of Imitating People, Imitate the Right Things

3 John 1:11; Philippians 3:17–21

- Paul says, imitate me. Just as I also imitate Christ.
- Imitate. Be like, not impersonate, not pretend.
- Imitating Jesus is living like Jesus, is loving like Jesus.
- Beloved, do not imitate what is evil, but what is good. He who does good is of God, and he who does evil has not seen God.
- We can be ourselves and reflect Jesus in everything that we do.
- You can imitate the world and go after what? Worldly things. Or we could imitate Jesus and go after the things that matter.

3 Christ Died for All of Us

Romans 5:6–8

- Christ died for all of us. Which again makes all of us matter. Which should make us all comfortable in our own skin with who we are.
- Because Christ died for you. Nothing else should matter.
- For when we were still without strength in due time, Christ died for the ungodly.
- But God demonstrates his own love toward us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

THE CHALLENGE

If you want to turn your life around and start serving God, or if you haven't been serving God and the world has been tempting you away, now's the time, either publicly or in your own heart, to make it right.

MY NOTES