

If Suicide's the Answer ... What's the Question?

The Question of Disillusionment

The Cracker Jack box said, New Prize Inside. The six-year-old tore into the box and turned the contents onto the table. There it was ... clearly labeled Prize. But instead of a "real" prize, there were instructions for how to download an app that promised "fun." The child's face fell, disappointment and disillusionment sending roots deep into the heart. Unmet expectations turn to disappointment and disappointments turn to disillusionment. This week, we look at unmet expectations, disappointment, and disillusionment as three root causes of suicide and ways we can help turn the rising tide of life-ending acts.

2 Samuel 17:1–7, 23

1. Life should be _____.
2. Disappointment is a _____ of life; Disillusionment is a _____ of life.
3. Attachments are the seeds of _____.
4. The antidote to disillusionment is _____.

My Count Me In! Commitments

- I'll be here next Sunday
- I'll invite a friend
- I'll intentionally nurture a "weak" relationship this week
- I'll make a list of my attachments and evaluate each one
- I'll encourage conversation with someone who's been disappointed this week

Additional Notes

Digging Deeper, Going Further

Monday

Read: 1 Corinthians 10

1. What was the fate of those who committed idolatry, immorality, testing God, and grumbling in verses 6–10?
2. Which of the temptations do we face that are unbearable?

Reflect: What temptations do you face that have been difficult to overcome?

Tuesday

Read: 1 Corinthians 11

1. In verses 1–16, do you think the issue Paul's addressing is about head coverings or about reverence and appropriateness in prayer?
2. Why was Paul so angry about the way they were practicing the Lord's supper?

Reflect: At RCC we have two very different styles of worship – a traditional style and a modern style. What does it mean to you to approach worship in a reverent (appropriate) manner?

Wednesday

Read: 1 Corinthians 12

1. To whom does the Spirit give spiritual gifts? Is anyone excluded?
2. According to verse 9, what is the purpose of spiritual gifts?

Reflect: Why are your spiritual gifts, your skills, your talents, and your expertise important for the church? How are you using these tools?

Thursday

Read: 1 Corinthians 13

1. Why is love so important to the work of the church?
2. What effect does love have on the gifts we bring to the church?

Reflect: What effect does it have on a church when people treat each other impatiently, enviously, proudly, dis-honorably, selfishly, angrily, etc.?

Friday

Read: 1 Corinthians 14

1. Which spiritual gifts should we most want to receive?
2. Why is the gift of prophesying (preaching) more effective than other gifts, when it comes to reaching those who are outside of the faith?

Reflect: Why is Paul so concerned about how worship is perceived by unbelievers?

Saturday: *Who will you invite to worship with you tomorrow?*