

Good, Better, Best

In All My Spare Time

Once upon a time, doing your best meant giving it all you had, going the extra mile, putting some elbow grease into it. Doing your best meant you were expected to invest a lot of effort into it. What happened? For all intents and purposes it seems like we live in a culture where “good enough” and mediocrity is the societal norm. But you know better, don’t you. When you’ve squeaked by rather than given it your all. When you look at the piece you wrote, the paint that’s drying, the conversation you’ve had, the job you’ve done and you know deep inside that you could have done better. This week we’ll have our first conversation about Good, Better, Best ... how we can do better in all our spare time.

Mark 13:32-37

1. We live in a world of _____, not _____.
2. Before we were called _____, we were called _____.
3. Because it’s _____, you don’t need the _____ to understand it.
4. Because it’s _____, you must have the _____ to live it.

My Count Me In! Commitments

- I’ll be here next Sunday
- I’ll invite a friend
- I’ll adjust my worldview from rules to clues
- I’ll read the Red Letters and write down the DO parts
- I’ll give up 15 minutes of screen time each day to Do something loving to a neighbor in faith

Additional Notes

Digging Deeper, Going Further

Scripture: Mark 13:32-37

Introduction: We live in an X-BOX world where there are clues, but no rules. It's all about git 'er done, no matter what it takes. We see that being played out in the political realm, sports realm, celebrity realm, and even in the legal realm where you'd think the rules would be pretty sacred. But not anymore. Perhaps surprisingly, this isn't new. And it's not evil (though all good can be pressed into evilness). In fact, it kinda began in teachings of a guy named Jesus who said that the only thing we need to figure out is how to live lives that were not focused on our own needs, wants, and desires but focused and devoted only to loving God and loving our neighbors. And he didn't go much into detail of how to do that. No rules. Just clues. 24/7.

1. What were some of the board games did you grew up playing? Share any "house rules" you may have had in any of those games.
2. What are some of the differences between playing a board game and playing a video game?
3. Read Mark 13:32–37. What do you think the primary message of this parable was? Who does the householder represent? The servants?
4. What were some of the tasks you think the householder assigned to his servants?
5. When did the servants get to retire (or take a day off)? What do you think this means for those of us who are People of the Way?
6. Read 1 Corinthians 9:19–22. What was the primary "rule" Paul lived by in order to "save some"?
7. Dr. Bill said that The Way was so simple we don't need the church to understand it ... but so difficult we must have the church to live it. Is this a frightening thought, or a freeing thought? Share why you think so.

Who will you invite to worship with you this week?
