

Know Thyself | Week 1 - The Real Key to Success

Message Big Idea

I am loved and valued for who I am, not for what I do.

Scripture

Luke 3:21 - 4:1-4

Points to Keep In Mind

1. When we know that we belong to God and are loved by God, we can effectively reframe the way we relate our accomplishments and failures. If we learn to live in God's love, then we can go about the business of living our lives as a response to that love. Like a loving parent who allows a child to live and act and fail "in front" of the parent, so there can be love, acceptance, coaching, and restoration on the way to maturity. Our relationship with God is not threatened by failure, nor is it made greater through victorious performance. It is established and sustained by the unceasing love of God, who declares we are his sons and daughters.
2. After Jesus' baptism, he was led into the wilderness, where he was tempted to turn stones into bread, but he overcame that temptation by quoting a passage of Scripture from Deuteronomy 8:3 that says, "man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord."

The specific temptation is to "take the matter into his own hands" and do something about his hunger. The text he quotes from Deuteronomy is about learning to live according to what God has to say. Bread is important, we will die without it, but it is not everything. When we learn to see ourselves the way God sees us, and we learn to trust in God, then we are really living beyond satisfying our desires and whims.

3. The more we know ourselves, the more we can be honest with ourselves, God, and others. This kind of self-awareness helps us see ourselves more clearly and grow toward maturity. Without this kind of self-knowledge, we will never be able to see ourselves clearly enough to make the changes we need to make to move toward the best version of ourselves.

Next Steps

1. Where do you see God at work in your life right now?
2. What next steps do you feel called to take in your YOU+ journey? Check out communitychristian.org/you
3. Have you considered getting baptized? Learn more at communitychristian.org/baptism