

070118 Growth Group Study



I Love My Tree Quite Dearly

1. Discussion around most recent sermon

- a. **Date:** 07/01/18
- b. **Series:** Acts: Life Unleashed
- c. **Title:** The Road Not Taken, A poetic Testimony
- d. **Text:**
- e. **Preacher:** Brian Morgan / Ron Jimenez

f. **Scripture Reading: Psalm 1**

- 1 Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked,
nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers;
- 2 but his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day
and night.
- 3 He is like a tree planted by streams of water
that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither.
In all that he does, he prospers.
- 4 The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.
- 5 Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;
- 6 for the LORD knows the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked will perish.

g. **Sermon Text: This Sermon was Ron Jimenez' story, so there was no sermon text. Ron did mention these verses from 1 Cor 13 –**

- 12 For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face.
Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known. 13 And
now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

h. Specific discussion questions from sermon

Note: Our questions this week revolve around our stories. By sharing our stories, we build authenticity, and we see how faith intersects real life. But, also, when we hear someone else's story, we are reminded of ours. Their stories help us connect to our own. The questions this week are to help us share our lives with each other.

1. Ron shared how when you are hiking, there are 'trail ducks' (cairns) along the path to help the hiker know where to go. Ron went on to share his 'trail ducks' in his life. What are the 'trail ducks' in your own life?
2. Ron shared how music, specifically playing the violin, was a refuge for him when he grew up. What was/is your refuge (can be a positive or negative experience)? Why?
3. Ron shared about the point in his life when the Bible came alive for him. Has the Bible come alive in your life? If so how and when did that happen?
4. Ron shared how the Psalms were critical in his life. Are the Psalms, which was Jesus' prayerbook, critical in your life? Why or why not?
Suggestion: Try reading a Psalm a day over the next month. If you miss a day, let it go. The point is to soak in the Psalms.
5. When Ron lost his daughter, he felt the embrace of the church, both individually and collectively. Who can you embrace this week, showing a hurting person the love and care of Jesus?

i. Reference Texts / Books