

My Disappointing Home

My ___ Home, Pt. 1

John 14:15-31

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Grace Hill Church

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EPISODE 1

I. INTRODUCTION

a. It is September 2020

- i. And most of us have been stuck in our homes since mid-March...about 6 Months!

b. And it makes me wonder...is your home a more peaceful place than it was back in March?

- i. Or is it more...

- Chaotic?
- Stressful?
- Tense?
- Boring?
- Lonely?

- ii. How would you describe your home today after being stuck there for six months?

- I get the feeling that most people might use the word...disappointing.
 1. I wish my home were more a place of rest, peace, comfort, laughter, fun.
 2. But this pandemic has turned my home into a place tension and stress.

- iii. You know a pastor/author/counselor named Paul Tripp once said...

- That the words that come from the mouth of a drunk weren't put inside of him by the alcohol...
 1. Rather, the alcohol loosened his lips and released the words that were already inside of him.



- And in the same way...I don't think that this pandemic has been the cause of the stress in our homes...
 1. I don't think it has been the cause of the challenges in your marriage.
 2. I don't think it has been the cause of the loneliness you feel.
 3. I don't think it has been the cause of the chaos.
 - But rather, I think the pandemic has exposed the state of our homes and our relationships that already existed.
- iv. **And I believe that that is a good thing!**
- That this pandemic is actually an opportunity.
 1. An opportunity to address what has made our homes and our relationships disappointing.

II. SERIES PLUG

a. So, through this Fall, we are starting a series of messages called MY _____ HOME.

- i. And we're going to talk very frankly and openly about all the different reasons that we might find our homes disappointing.
 - How would you fill in the blank?
 1. Unromantic
 2. Office&church&school
 3. Lonely
 4. Abusive
 5. Tense



6. Maybe your home is filled with shame...because you feel like your dropping the ball on all the different hats you have to wear and you don't know how to do it all well.

b. I want to invite you to tune in to the online Grace Hill Church worship service this Sunday, September 13 because as we start this series, there is something that every single one of us needs to hear and believe...

- i. And that is no matter your situation...
 - No matter how hard it is. How impossible it is. How frustrating and stressful it is...
 - There is hope for you to have a home that is marked by peace, rest, meaningful relationships, and joy.
- ii. And the reason that I can speak so confidently to that hope is because of something Jesus promised us in the Bible...in the Book of John...Chapter 14...verse 23.
 - *"All who love me...My Father will love them, and we will come and make our home with each of them."*
- iii. One of the greatest promises that God gives to those who believe in Him is that He takes up residence...he makes His home...inside of us.
 - And if we'll let Him settle in. If we'll give him access to all the nooks and crannies of our heart...



- Then He will start to bring transformation to our homes and our relationships.
 1. He'll turn tense relationships into life-giving relationships.
 2. He'll heat up a cold marriage.
 3. He'll give us patience and hope in the chaos of parenting.
 4. He'll comfort the lonely.
 5. He'll give courage to the abused to get out.
 6. He'll encourage the ashamed.

c. And so will you join me Sunday as we take some time to understand exactly what Jesus means when He promises to make His home in our hearts...and what that means for the homes that we live in everyday?



EPISODE 2

III. INTRODUCTION

a. Hey, before we get started, I wanted to tell you about something that I am really excited about!

- i. Tomorrow at noon, we are going to start going live on our facebook and YouTube channels again to do Q&A.
 - We did this every Monday through the Spring and we're excited to be doing it again through the Fall.
 - So, If you have a question about anything from the sermon (or really anything else in life) we want you to send those questions in.
 - You can do that (screen) by going to Slido.com, entering code 917, and submitting your question.
 - You can also "like" other questions that have been submitted if you want to be make sure we address those.
- ii. On Mondays, we'll go live at noon to answer these questions and sometimes, to talk through other topics or current events going on in the world.
 - Slido.com, #917.

b. So hey, did you catch the Sunday Setup last Thursday?

- i. This is something that I am really excited about that we're going to be doing over this new sermon series.



- ii. We are going to be dividing each sermon into two episodes.
 - Episode 1 will be broadcasted on Thursday nights at 8...something we're calling our SUNDAY SETUP.
 - And episode 2 will be our sermon on Sunday mornings, whether we are online only or gathering together at Frying Pan Park.
- iii. So, if you didn't catch the Sunday Setup this week, no worries, I'll be sure we're all caught up.
 - But make sure this coming week you tune in on Thursday nights or catch the replay after.
 - Both the live broadcast and the replay can't be found right where you are...our Facebook Page or our YouTube Channel.

IV. NEW SERMON SERIES

a. But this week, we are starting a new sermon series called MY _____ HOME.

- i. We are in month #6 of a global pandemic that has caused us to spend more time in our homes and consolidate most of our lives into our homes.
 - And the question that we're asking in this series is:
 1. Would you describe your home as more peaceful or more stressful after 6 months into this pandemic?
 2. How would you fill in the blank?
 3. How would you describe your home?



- How would you describe the relationships in your home...are they more tense?
 - What about your marriage? Has that improved through this pandemic?
 - Maybe you would describe your home as lonelier than ever because your there by yourself all the time.
 - Maybe you would describe your home as chaos because your kids are now always there and your home has also been repurposed as your office, their school, and your place of worship all at the exact same time.
 - Maybe you would describe your home as a place of shame because you feel like your dropping the ball on all of the new and different responsibilities you now have to do all at once.
- ii. **I think it's likely that for most of us, after 6 months into this pandemic, we would describe our homes or the people in our homes as disappointing in some way, shape or form.**
- And I think that means this pandemic is a huge opportunity for us...because this pandemic is not the cause of the stress in our home...it just has surfaced the stress that is already there.
 1. This pandemic has done us a favor!
 2. And we now have the opportunity to deal with the relationships and the stress that exists in our homes in a way that we have not had before.



- iii. So, we are going to deal with all different kinds of topics in this series...
 - Marriage, Singleness, Parenting, Conflict resolution, abuse, hospitality, and a number of other things.
 - So, be sure to tune in to the Sunday Setup on Thursday nights and join us for worship on Sunday mornings.
 - Also, be sure to submit your questions for our Monday Q&A's!
 1. Slido.com #917

V. GOD MAKES HIS HOME W/ US

a. But this morning as we introduce this new series, here is my goal.

- i. That we would catch a vision of the kind of home that God wants us to have and that we would believe that God could make that happen.
 - That's all I want to accomplish this morning.
- ii. **Because, no matter your situation...**
 - No matter how hard it is. How impossible it is. How frustrating and stressful it is...
 - There is hope for you to have a home that is marked by peace, rest, meaningful relationships, and joy.
 - And the reason that I can speak so confidently to that hope is because of something Jesus promised us in the Bible...in John 14.
 1. Read John 14:15-26 (NLT)



b. So, Jesus says this to his disciples just before his crucifixion and resurrection.

- i. Jesus is saying...hey, I am leaving...I'm going to go be back with the Father in heaven.
 - But I am NOT leaving because the Holy Spirit (the Spirit of God) is going to come and take up residence, move in, make His home with everyone who believes and trusts in me.
- ii. So, if you trust in Jesus. If you believe that Jesus died in your place on the cross to pay the debt of your sin, if He has given you new, eternal life, and if you follow Jesus as your Lord and Savior and seek to obey His Word...then the Spirit of God has taken up residence inside of you.
 - And the Holy Spirit basically has two functions as He makes His home in your heart...
 1. He seals you and He helps you.
- iii. The Holy Spirit acts as a deposit given to you by God guaranteeing you eternal life in the future after this life. He is a seal that you belong to God.
 - Ephesians 1:13-14 - **"¹³ In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴ who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory."**



1. When the Spirit of God made His home in your heart...it was a permanent thing.
 2. You are a forgiven child of God and that will never change.
- And the reason this is important for us to understand this morning is because when the Spirit of God begins his other ministry in our life...the ministry of helping us live our lives in obedience to God's Word...we have to understand the Spirit is in it for the long haul.
 1. The Spirit of God knows that this change and transformation of our lives is not going to be an overnight thing.
 2. He knows that changing our thinking, our habits, our desires, and conquering our idols is going to be a life-time of help and ministry in our hearts,
 - So, even though we fail often, even though we fall into sin, even though we give into temptation...
 1. Even though relationships can continue to be a struggle...
 2. Even though our marriage is struggling...
 3. Even though we continue to be discouraged because of our singleness...
 4. Even though life continues to be really hard...
 - The Spirit of God is not going to run out of patience with us and decide to pack His bags and move out.
 1. He is inside of us and will continue to help us because God's mercies are new every morning and we cannot exhaust the grace and mercy of the cross.



c. And this means that the Holy Spirit is up for the task of helping us have the kind of homes that God desires for us...and He is in it for the long haul...

- i. Because God's vision for your home is that it would be a place of refuge, joy, peace, and rest...not only for you but also for your neighbors.
 - God's vision for your marriage is that it would display the kind of unfailing love to the world that Christ has shown you.
 - God's vision for your singleness, for however long God has that for you, is that you would be used in mighty ways for undistracted Kingdom work...
 - God's vision for your children is that they would be trained up by you to be released into this world to serve and love others as Christ has served and loved you.
- ii. God's vision for your home is that it would be a place of peace and safety in the midst of a world that has lost its mind.

d. And this morning, what we need to be able to walk away with from this sermon convinced of is that God can do this in our lives and in our homes.

- i. His Spirit has taken up residence inside of you to do this.
 - And some of you right now might be rolling your eyes at that claim.
 1. Maybe the tension in your house right now is at a fever pitch...



2. And the people you live with are just impossible...
3. Maybe your discouragement of your place in life right now is at a place where you're tired in hoping for something better.
4. Maybe you're already at the place where you want out of your marriage and you really don't want to entertain staying...
5. Maybe your stress and anxiety about work, school, and parenting is already at a place where your body is beginning to ache and be unhealthy...

ii. **And here's the thing...when we read our Bibles...we read of God that does these amazing, impossible things, right?**

- Creating the world with the power of His Word.
- Parting the Red Sea.
- Raising people from the dead and healing diseases.

iii. **Those things are not included in the Bible so that God can show off his ability to do cool tricks.**

- It's actually not in the Bible so that we would think that such supernatural miracles should be a normative part of our experience with God.
- They are in our Bible so that we would believe that God is able to do what we believe to be impossible.



- They are there to declare that what is impossible for us is not impossible for God.
 1. So, your right...
 2. You might be in a spot right now in life where true change and transformation is impossible...for you.
 3. But it is not impossible for God.
 4. And His Spirit has moved in to do what is impossible.
- iv. **But here's the other thing about these amazing miracles we read about in the Scriptures...**
- Every single time, what does God require for Him to do the impossible? What does God require for Him to save us and forgive us of our sins? What does God require for Him to move on behalf of our prayers?
 1. Faith. Faith that He is working. Faith that He is able. Faith that His Word can be trusted. Faith that He knows better than us.
 2. Faith.
- v. **And as we look back at our passage today in John 14...what did Jesus say to us?**
- John 14:23 – *“All who love me will do what I say. My Father will love them, and we will come and make our home with each of them.”*
 1. When we place our faith in God, we are expressing our trust in God.
 2. And if we trust God then we will trust His word.
 3. We will believe that it is best for us to follow His Word because we trust His Word.



e. And this is really important for us to understand when it comes to the ministry of the Holy Spirit in our lives...because yes, although the Holy Spirit is in it for the long haul and although the Holy Spirit can accomplish the impossible inside of us, and although He will never leave us...

i. It is possible for us to impede the ministry of the Holy Spirit.

- Paul tells us in 1 Thessalonians 5:19 - *"19 Do not quench the Spirit."*
 1. That word "quench" essentially means extinguish.
 2. So, think of the work of the Holy Spirit in you as him stoking this fire of change and transformation.
 3. Well, it is possible for us to quench the Holy Spirit.
 4. To throw cold water on that fire.
- Paul also tells us in Ephesians 4:30 - *"30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption."*
 1. If the Spirit is at work in you...we can grieve the Spirit by impeding its work...and that grieves God's Spirit because He so desires for you to experience the joy and peace that He is working to produce in you.



ii. **And here is how we quench and grieve the Spirit of God...**

- By not having faith that God is able to do the impossible inside of us.
 1. Because the ultimate way that we express our faith and trust in God is by following and obeying His Word.
 2. When we have faith in the Word of God we will obey His Word.
 3. And obedience to the Word of God is how we throw gas on the fire of the work that the Holy Spirit is doing inside of us.

iii. **And that is what we are going to do through this sermon series.**

- We are going to look to the Word of God and seek to place our faith and trust in what it says to do.
 1. Marriage
 2. Parenting
 3. Conflict Resolution
- And as we seek to trust the Word of God, we'll get out of the way of the Holy Spirit for Him to do the work of transformation that only God can do in our lives and in the lives of those in our homes.

f. So, I don't know how you would describe your home right now...

- i. **But no matter where you are. Whether you would say your disappointed in your home or not.**
- Let's all dig in this Fall.
 - Let's have faith in the Word of God.
 - Let's commit to not quench the spirit of God and let Him begin to work in ways that we never thought possible.



- ii. Let's give God free reign and Lordship of our homes so that our homes can be places of refuge for not only us but also our neighbors.
 - Amen?

VI. PRAY

