



January 26, 2020 – Rick Myatt



WHY WE RENT TUXEDOS

40th and Final in the Series on Ephesians Titled, "Messages to the Misfits"

Passage: Ephesians 6:24 - Topic: Loving Christ

This past Sunday, Rick completed our series on Ephesians with the final message being about loving Christ.

He showed us that the most important thing in life is to make the most important thing the most important thing: The LORD. Everything in life hinges on that proper prioritization. (Rick used the illustration of the wedding as being the most important day of your life, and warrants having the best of everything for that day, including the most expensive dress of your life and the rented tux - hence the title.) Jesus said it was the greatest commandment (loving the Lord intensely, with everything you've got).

Rick taught that two things are crucial to loving Christ more than anything:

1. If loving the Lord the most is good, then failing to do so is bad, on some level. We will be prioritizing the *wrong* thing. And that is the definition of idolatry. And over time, our passion for Him can wane. If it does, we can pretend for a while, but that will work for just so long before our idolatry is discovered.
2. Loving the Lord is the source of true love and joy. The thing that brings us the most joy and is the engine of truly living, is loving and being loved. And Jesus does that best.

Then Rick compared loving the Lord to loving a person. Ways we can love the Lord like we can love a person:

1. Love Him with intense feelings and affection. He is the most affectionate, generous, forgiving, loving being. When we see Him that way, we will be drawn to Him.
2. The Lord will take precedence. As in a romance, everything will remind you of Him.

3. There will be a deep desire to serve Him. Making Him happy will make you happy, just as in the closest relationships.

In application, Rick taught that our love for the Lord needs to be refreshed continually. Keep it from dying out by:

1. Being rooted in Him because He first loved us. Meditate on His love.
2. Remember His great value. Remind yourself why you first became passionate about Him before your feelings waned.
3. Remember how undeserving you are! Be overwhelmed by His grace! And say as you might say to a spouse, "I don't know what I did to win your love. Thank you for loving me."
4. Live in His presence. Meet and chat with Him regularly. Hang out with Him.
5. Ask the Lord to increase your love for Him.
6. Choose. Prioritize Him properly! Choose to love Him and put Him first, before even yourself. Choose life and have it more abundantly. Choose life or get death. Don't miss the boat in life!