

## The Story

Chapter 11 – Your Story for the Generations

Class Notes

April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021

1 **“God is Spirit...God is love.”** (John 4:24; 1 John 4:8, 16)

➤ At the heart of every great story is this one grand idea: *to live* \_\_\_\_\_ *and* \_\_\_\_\_.

➤ Everything is \_\_\_\_\_.

➤ Everything is about \_\_\_\_\_.

2 **The Greatest Barrier to Love**

➤ The greatest barrier to love may not be what you think.

▪ We normally look at:

- Lack of Empathy
- Lack of Compassion
- Lack of Care
- Lack of Kindness

➤ The greatest barrier to love is \_\_\_\_\_.

➤ **Colossians 3:1–4 (ESV)** — **1** If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. **2** Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. **3** For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. **4** When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

### 3 Connecting Our Story to the Gospel

- **Matthew 9:35–38 (ESV) — 35** And Jesus went throughout all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction. **36** When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. **37** Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; **38** therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.”
  
- The Spirit and love of God in you will always see the \_\_\_\_\_ around you.
  
- You will always discover who you are as another's \_\_\_\_\_ becomes your priority.
  
- The gift in you will always meet the \_\_\_\_\_ in another!

### 4 The Greater Works of Jesus

- **John 14:12–14 (ESV) — 12** “Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. **13** Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. **14** If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it.”
  
- Doing the “greater works of Jesus” means we will draw near to another's \_\_\_\_\_.
  
- Regardless of what the result of “greater works” are, prayer is the foundation of the “greater works.”
  - Prayer \_\_\_\_\_ my love for another.

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## 5 Your best story is where you become less, and others become more.

- John the Baptist
  - **John 3:25–30 (ESV) — 25** Now a discussion arose between some of John's disciples and a Jew over purification. **26** And they came to John and said to him, "Rabbi, he who was with you across the Jordan, to whom you bore witness—look, he is baptizing, and all are going to him." **27** John answered, "A person cannot receive even one thing unless it is given him from heaven. **28** You yourselves bear me witness, that I said, 'I am not the Christ, but I have been sent before him.' **29** The one who has the bride is the bridegroom. The friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly at the bridegroom's voice. Therefore this joy of mine is now complete. **30** He must increase, but I must decrease."

➤ John does not hold onto his right to be the \_\_\_\_\_ or the \_\_\_\_\_.

➤ John's joy is in the greater \_\_\_\_\_.

➤ Another's \_\_\_\_\_ is the measure of your \_\_\_\_\_.

## 6 Summary Thoughts

- You will never discover the fullness of self within \_\_\_\_\_, but only in the \_\_\_\_\_ you bring others.