



Come Matter Here: Build Out of Love | July 15, 2020

Discussion Guide

The Scoop

Most of the time, when we try to build a meaningful life, we do so out of fear or overcoming inadequacies; but what would it look like if we built our future out of love instead?

Key Verses

Lamentations 3:19-24

I'll never forget the trouble, the utter lostness, the taste of ashes, the poison I've swallowed. I remember it all—oh, how well I remember—the feeling of hitting the bottom. But there's one other thing I remember, and remembering, I keep a grip on hope: God's loyal love couldn't have run out, his merciful love couldn't have dried up. They're created new every morning. How great your faithfulness! I'm sticking with God (I say it over and over).

Discussion

The metamorphosis of a caterpillar changing into a butterfly is a beautiful transformation: something limited becomes something limitless. We love analogies about how someone finally grew into something new. However, a little known fact is that the caterpillar actually has a choice whether or not to undergo this change. Some caterpillars choose what's called diapause which delays their transformation journey until the next Spring. I think this analogy, while less Hallmark, is more accurate to how we aspire.

1. What other analogies can you think of regarding aspiring to more or avoiding the unknown can you think of?
2. Can you think of a time where fear, insecurities, or feelings of inadequacy held you back? What is your diapause?

In the book “Come Matter Here” by Hannah Brencher, Hannah tells a story of when she met with a friend to discuss her upcoming big life decisions. Upon telling her thoughts to her friend, she realized that she was explaining her future choices from a point of fear and uncertainty. She was afraid of staying put and afraid of what was ahead. Her friend challenged her to make decisions and build her future out of love instead.

3. Do you have a tendency to make decisions based on fear of failure, not measuring up, not accomplishing enough, past mistakes or do you tend to make decisions based on your strengths, successes, self value, and sense of worth?
4. What might it look like to approach your life decisions from a place of being loved and understanding your value? Can you think of a decision or situation in your journey that would be different?

In the Bible, Lamentations 3:19-24 says, “oh, how well I remember—the feeling of hitting the bottom.” Yet despite this, “there's one other thing I remember, and remembering, I keep a grip on hope: God's loyal love couldn't have run out, his merciful love couldn't have dried up.” Despite facing life lows and hardships, the author is aware of God's enduring love. We all have a past, we all have failures, and we all want to be enough, but experiencing deep meaning in this life is not through running from or out running fear and inadequacy. Deep meaning is experienced when we plan and build our life out of love instead.

5. What truths, value, and love can you lean on for planning a meaningful existence?
6. Who and what in your life has filled your life with value and love? Are you in a place in life where you feel like it matters? If not, what needs to change?

What's Next?

This series is titled “Come Matter Here,” which is God's desire for all of us. Seek out people in your life who can highlight and bring out the love needed to build a life that matters. Reflect on your value, success, and strengths and plan your life around these.

You can find a template of our 5-minute faith journal at faithinfive.com to further engage your goals and connect them with your faith.