

PIT OF HELL | Week 1

- Tonight, we are going to be starting a new series called the PIT OF HELL
- What is the Pit of Hell?
 - o We have a lot of thoughts on what it is.
 - Devil with a pitchfork. Fire, darkness, continually falling. gnashing of teeth. Big party with my friends. There are many different things that are talked about when it comes to hell and some of those are true
 - Matthew 13 says that the law-breakers will be thrown into the fiery furnace where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth
 - Matthew 25 says it will be an eternal fire
 - Revelation 19 fiery lake of burning sulfur
 - 2 Peter in Chains of darkness
- Is Hell a bad place? Absolutely
 - o What I do not want to do is to try to scare people in to heaven. To many places give that gospel. And say do you want to burn in hell? Do you want to be in the bottomless pit, of course no one wants that. But do we focus on scaring them away from hell or drawing them to Jesus?
- However, this is the passage that I want to focus on
- 2 Thessalonians 1:5-12
 - o In the midst of this though there is one phrase that truly stands out to me.
 - o Vs 9 away from the presence of God.
 - o We highlight these things about hell all the time but all of that does not compare to the actual torment that we do not like to talk about very often. And that torment is being completely separate from the power and love of God.
- Are we functioning at times like we are in the pit of Hell?
- ARE WE BELIEVING THE GODLESS LIES THAT ARE COMING STRAIGHT FROM SATAN? LIES THAT ARE COMING STRAIGHT FROM THE PIT OF HELL.
- Last night we had a leader meeting and we were together as leaders we had just finished up and I received a text from Clancy (lease pastor). There was a young man that overdosed and passed away. That led into a long discussion between a few of us leaders and I want to share with you some of the things that were said and that came out in that conversation.
- 1. Satan is really good at what he does
 - o John 8:44-47
 - o The devil is the father of lies
 - It is out of his own character. He is good at what he does he is good at deceiving.
 - John 10:10 He comes to kill steal and destroy.
 - o There is no truth in the Devil
 - There is no truth in him.
 - There is no logic
 - Sin does not make sense

- Sin should not make sense
 - Many times, we try to get in the mind of why did they do it. They shouldn't have done it. What were they thinking.
 - I pray that we are to never understand what is fully going on in their minds.
 - SIN DOES NOT MAKE SENSE. SIN ONLY MAKES SENSE TO THE SINFUL
 - When we begin to understand sin (it makes sense why they did it) we are putting our hearts in a very compromising situation.
 - Whoever hears the word of God is of God
 - In the same way Gods word only makes sense to the righteous
 - It does not make sense to those in the darkness
- Let me illustrate with this
- Will you turn the lights off?
 - The longer that you stay in the darkness the more your eyes get adjusted. The more that you are able to "see." And there is no pain about your eyes adjusting to the darkness.
 - However, the light reveals the truth and when the lights get flipped on. It hurts the eyes our natural reaction is to shrink away from the light because we don't want that type of exposure.
 - The light will expose The darkness hides
 - Story of survival weekend crossing the ravine the danger that it hid was not good for us. (Walked across a fallen down tree at night, what I didn't see until the next day was that if I would have fallen off it was a 25 drop.)
 - The light shows the difficulty of the path the darkness makes it seem easy
 - The light shows truth The darkness covers it
 - The darkness allows you to sleep
 - Ephesians 5:11-14
 - The darkness makes you feel alone
 - The darkness allows your mind to wander
 - The darkness encourages disobedience. The light encourages obedience
 - Think about it. Sexual sin in a dark room, drinking under age at night, in the cover of darkness, missions that don't want to be found out.
 - The darkness allows you to dictate your own path
 - The pit of hell is ultimate darkness because it is separate from Jesus who is The Light
- The pain and suffering that you will go through coming into the light does not even compare to the suffering that Jesus went through to make the pathway to the light possible.
 - Well, it's too hard. No, it's not
 - My friends will be mad, and your parents and you do not understand
- Do you desire the light or do you desire the darkness
- Everyone is going to encounter Jesus one day. Do not let the first time you encounter him be at your death. Because if it is, it will be the first and the last time you ever do.

- John 8:12 “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of Life”

What lies are you being told?

I am missing out on something....

I won't get caught....

This will take away the pain and the hurt

How do you know if you are of God? If you hear his voice