

CHRISTIANITY:



WHAT'S IN IT FOR me?

1 CORINTHIANS 12:26-27; 2 CORINTHIANS 12:9

SERMON OUTLINE JANUARY 24, 2016

“Christianity: What’s in It for Me?”

1 Corinthians 12:26-27; 2 Corinthians 12:9

INTRODUCTION: *“Early to bed, early to rise . . .”*

I. THE CHRISTIAN LIFE CAN INCLUDE SUFFERING

- A. Faith is not a magic cure for difficulty
- B. There was a controversy in Corinth about suffering
- C. Note – 1 Corinthians 12:26-27 & 2 Corinthians 12:9
- D. The authentic Christian life is **like a storm** – God is in the storm, Satan is in the storm, & Jesus is there with you in the storm.
- E. *Martin Luther King and “the mountaintop” speech*

II. CHRISTIANITY DOESN'T OFFER A PAINKILLER, IT OFFERS VICTORY

- A. Christianity is not some cheap escape from reality
- B. Jesus brings victory, not escape
- C. We ought to stop “playing games” in our church
- D. St. Paul stopped “playing games” & won a victory (2 Corinthians 12:9)
- E. The true blessing of faith: **God’s grace**
 - 1. God’s stooping down to us (Hosea 11:1-4)
 - 2. God’s devotion to us (Isaiah 49:15-16)
 - 3. The person of Jesus (John 1:14)

CONCLUSION: *The sermon from the special needs hand bell choir.*