

I. ME

- A. Welcome
- B. Series- Becoming on Purpose
- C. Who do you want to be? What do you want your life to be?
- D. First thing that came to our mind?—MEDIOCRE, right?

II. WE

- A. **We all want a great life but most of us settle for good enough.**
- B. Result of just letting life happen/No plan
- C. The life you want always seems just out of reach.
 - 1. And you end up settling for 'Good Enough'
 - 2. As long as things aren't burning down you're "eh, good enough."
 - 3. As long as you're still married and they aren't complaining too much... good enough.
 - 4. As long as you're still getting paid or clients aren't complaining
 - 5. As long as the house is still standing
 - 6. As long as the principal isn't calling every week...

7. If we settle for 'Good Enough' life will never be 'Great'

D. Quote: "Good is the enemy of great. And that is one of the key reasons why we have so little that becomes great. We don't have great schools, principally because we have good schools. We don't have great government, principally because we have good government. Few people attain great lives, in large part because it is just so easy to settle for a good life." – Jim Collins *Good to Great*

E. Settling for good enough is settling for mediocre.

- F. Results?
 - 1. Our day to day becomes worse than just a routine... it becomes empty, boring
 - 2. We wake up one day and realize what we settled for is no longer good enough... we've become ineffective, apathetic, and/or bitter.
 - 3. SO we see another effect of settling for Good Enough...

4. 'Good Enough' rarely leads to 'Happy Enough.'

- 5. But what can we do about it?
- G. I mean there's so much going on that you are just barely hanging on as it is...
 - 1. So many responsibilities and tasks that you are trying to juggle that of course you settle for good enough...
 - 2. Who has time for anything else?
 - 3. Yet we all have the same hours in a day.
 - a. MLK
 - b. Bill Gates
 - c. Michael Jordan
 - d. Your Brother-In-Law
 - 4. Why do some people seem to be able to accomplish so much while most of us just kinda survive each day?

- H. We could talk about time management, diet and exercise, all good things...
 1. But there is still something else missing...
 2. B/c you could accomplish a lot and still have an empty life.
 3. See it all the time.
- I. So how do we break the routine and actually start thriving instead of just surviving?
 1. Interestingly enough, Jesus gives us the answer in one of his most important teachings.
 2. **The antidote to 'Good Enough'** (and the secret to a great life) **is LOVE.**

III. **GOD (Mark 12:28-31)**

A. Mark Background

B. Conversation

1. Jesus lays out the Law of Love
2. The core of what God wants for us... the totality of God's law.
3. The filter through which we should view all of life.
4. Read **Mark 12:28-31**
5. It all starts with God

C. V. 29b (...Hear O' Israel)

1. Part of the *SHEMA*- Center piece of the Jewish morning and evening prayers
2. **Highlight "OUR"**
3. Personal God
4. God that made a covenant/promise based completely on his love,
5. Not based on the worthiness or goodness of its recipients
6. God is yours and you are his and he loves you.
7. Proof is Jesus himself.
8. In theological/moral questions I always start with that – Jesus is proof that God loves me and is for me.
9. Everything else is a response to that truth.
10. **Our love is a response to God's love.**
11. What?
12. "B/C God is personal and loves you, you can..."

D. V. 30

1. Could break down each of those aspects of who we are... but the point is...
2. Our response to God's unconditional complete love is to love Him with EVERYTHING we are and do.

3. Highlight ALL

- a. Everything.
- b. Everything you do can be an act of love toward God.

c. Love creates Excellence.

- d. Put all of your effort into what you do b/c you are doing at as a thank you to God in response to his love.
- e. **Example-** Liz coming home so I clean the house. She's worth it.
- f. "But living that way sounds exhausting."
- g. Wait... not talking about perfect. Talking about something SO much better...

4. Highlight YOUR

- a. Who are you?
- b. God made you 'YOU' on purpose for a purpose.
- c. Jesus is saying, "Use all of you to do what you do."
- d. How are you wired? What unique perspective and skills do you have?
- e. Use all of that in everything you do.
- f. You are free to be you.
- g. It's authentic b/c it's all YOUR heart, soul, mind, strength.

h. Love requires authenticity.

- i. If you are trying to be someone else... trying to put on a show... trying to be more or less than you are... is that really love?
 - j. Perfection is not authentic
 - k. In order to truly love, you have to be truly you.
5. "That's cool."
 - a. But it's still kind of intangible. Like my motivation is to love God so I put ALL of ME in ALL I do... but what in real life does that even mean?
 - b. HOW am I supposed to do that?!?"

E. V. 31

1. Best way to show me love is to love my kids right?

2. The best way to love God is to love his kids.

3. Is it loving me to love my kids half-heartedly? Going through the motions so it looks like you care?
4. Babysitter- kids in front of the tv and stares at phone or gets down and plays?
5. **Love means giving all of you for the good of someone else.**

- F. Luke gives us a little more of how the conversation went... Jesus gave an example of what he was talking about...

1. Luke 10:30-37

G. Authentically Excellent love should be the hallmark of a Jesus-Follower.

1. People might not agree with their beliefs, but...
2. Every single **employer** should want to **hire** Jesus-Followers
3. Every **parent** should want their kid's **teachers** to be Jesus-Followers
4. Every **dad** should want his **daughter** to marry a Jesus-Follower...
5. B/c if they are truly following Jesus then in everything they do their goal will be love... and the result will be Authentic Excellence.
6. There is no room for shoddy work when your goal is love.
7. There is no excuse for procrastinating and throwing something together if love is your goal.
8. There is no excuse for going through the motions with your spouse if love is your goal
9. There is no reason to just get through another day... b/c every day is a chance to love with everything you are.

IV. YOU

- A. Where have you settled for Good Enough?
 1. Work? Kids? School? Marriage? Neighbors? Service opportunities?
 2. Is that what you hoped your life would be like 5 years ago?
 3. Is that how you hope your kids view and approach their lives?
 4. What if instead of looking for the easiest way or asking "is this good enough?"
 5. You asked, "What does love look like?"

6. Instead of asking, "Is this good enough?" Ask, "What does love look like?"

7. Your answer will always lead you to authentic excellence.
8. It will always lead you to purpose, fulfillment, and happiness.
9. It might even lead you to a raise :)

V. WE

- A. Imagine what your life and relationships would be like if it Authentically Excellent love was your daily goal?
- B. What if every school employee's goal was authentically excellent love?
- C. Government? Your neighbor?
- D. Every Jesus-Follower?
- E. It can start with you and it can start today.

F. When love is your goal, Authentic Excellence is always your result.

VI. August want to thank our contributors.