

MAKE YOUR LIFE COUNT

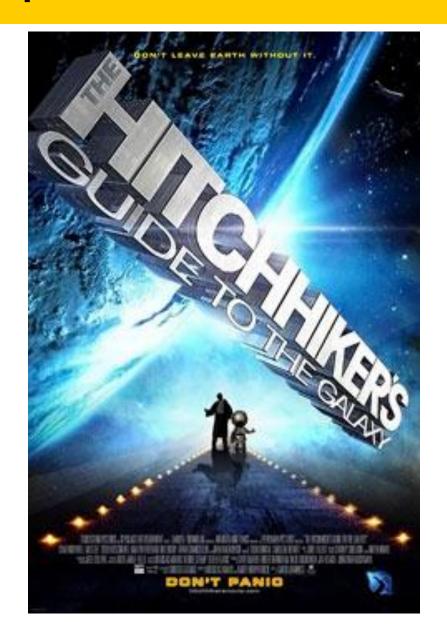
- Why are we here?
- What's our reason for existing?



 Jack Palance playing Curly in the movie, <u>City Slickers</u>







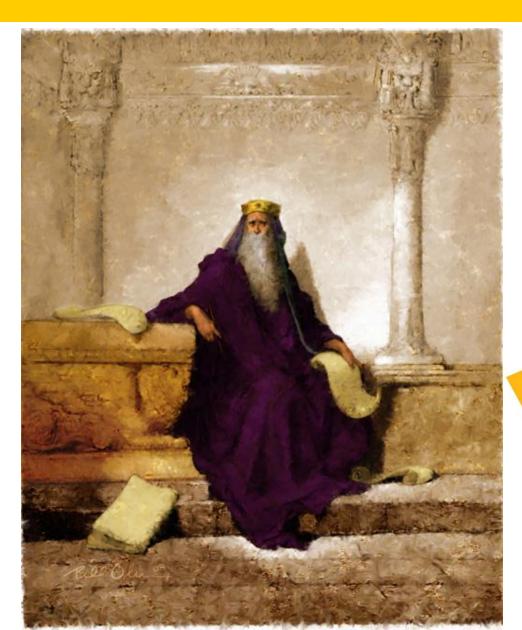


Agent Smith in The Matrix





King Solomon





- There is tension in all of this because...
- 1) We want to live a life that matters
- 2) God has a plan for us to do big things for His glory in His Kingdom
- 3) We must prepare to live fully in the preparations God has made for us
- Today, we discover that God has a single purpose for us:
- 4) God's purpose is that we know and love Him in a way that causes us to love others



- 1 John 5:3 (English Standard Version) ³For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome.
- John easily splices together obedience with loving God
- We struggle here because we are broken and think wrongly about love
- John clearly says that to know and love God = obeying God; what does that mean?



 John 15:1-11 (English Standard Version) ¹"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. ² Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. ³Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. 4 Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. ⁵I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. MAKE YOUR

⁶If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. 8 By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples. 9 As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. 10 If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹These things I have spoken to you, that my joy

may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

- These verses tell us to abide (8 times!);
 what does abide mean?
- To stay expectantly in a relationship



- John 15:1-11 (English Standard Version) ⁴ Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me.
- 1) Stay expectantly in a relationship with Christ
- Believers are called "The Bride of Christ"
- In v. 5, Jesus says He stays in us
- Jesus says that to live a life that matters you have to live in relationship with Him
- Are you in a relationship with Christ?
- Are you in an expectant relationship with Christ?



- John 15:3; John 15:7 (English Standard Version) 3
 Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. 7If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.
- 2) Stay expectantly in Christ's words
- What's your relationship with the Bible?
- To realize the life of meaning we desire, we have to approach the Bible rightly
- Are you expecting anything from these words?



- **Galatians 6:9** (English Standard Version) ⁹And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.
- **Ephesians 4:1** (English Standard Version) ¹I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called,



- 1 Peter 1:20-22 (English Standard Version) ²⁰He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for the sake of you ²¹ who through him are believers in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God. ²²Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart,
- John 15:7 (English Standard Version) ⁷If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.
- Know the Word, let it find a home in you, stay in it and expect things from it!

- **John 15:9-10** (English Standard Version) ⁹ As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. ¹⁰ If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love.
- 3) Stay expectantly in the love of Christ
- Love meant something to Christ
- Christ modeled love (for the Father and for others) by serving us, providing for us, living with us, dying for us





- Christ showed us what it means to know God and to love Him so that we will love others
- Love means...
- Our selfish heart must be replaced by a selfsacrificial one.
- We will love whoever God sends our way.
- We will love the un-loveable.
- We see the brokenness of the world with eyes of love.
- We meet the needs of the least of these.



- We all want a meaningful life
- Fulfill your purpose!
- Know and love God in a way that causes you to love others.



- You WILL find a life of meaning and a life that matters ~ expect it!
- John 15:11 (English Standard Version) ¹¹These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.



LADIES ~ BIBLE STUDY & INSIDE OUT

- TOMORROW, Sept27, at the GreatwoodRec Center
- 7-9 PM
- Becoming a Woman of Excellence, explore what it means to be a woman after God's heart

Inside Out Night... Sign up today to make a beautiful fall flower arrangement & enjoy dessert, coffee, and fellowship on October 4th @ 7pm at the home of Dede Harrington. Get your \$5 ticket at the women's ministry table. Details in the

bulletin...

Baptism Sunday

Sunday, October 17th

If you are interested in baptism please email us at: info@thesanctuaryfellowship.com





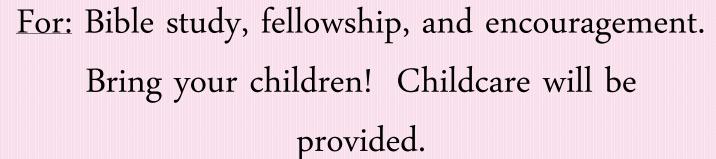
Habitat for Humanity – October 9th and 23rd

We're at it again and we need your help!
For more information or to sign up,
email Liz at
info@thesanctuaryfellowship.com.

MOTHER'S OF PRESCHOOLERS



9-11AM @ the Greatwood Chick-fil-A



RSVP today at info@thesanctuaryfellowship.com

See bulletin for contact information.









Update your Information...

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- You will find a card in your bulletin that you can fill out & drop off at the resource center.
- Thank you!

