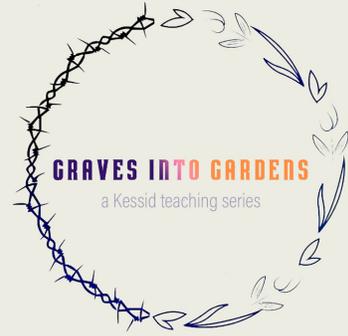


“WORTHY”

Date: August 2, 2020

Speaker: Danny Clinton



Graves Into Gardens is a series about... “Not just surviving difficult times, but thriving...”

- About asking God to turn our Graves into Gardens...

Jesus Christ is of course the greatest example of a Grave into Garden life!

- No matter the level of struggle and complexity in each situation he faced.
- Jesus Christ THRIVED! As a matter of fact...

“Jesus Christ thrived so much in both His life and death, His very existence changed everything for everyone.”

- Because of this, we call Jesus Christ WORTHY!
- I'd like permission to stay with this line of thinking for a moment...
- I realize it may feel a bit like a backwards message... Come with me anyways!

Three simple reasons Jesus' Worthy life changed everything!

- Jesus is *valuable*.
- Jesus is worthy because we have discovered Him to be the most valuable thing that life has to offer.
 - He ransomed us from sin.
 - He restored us to the Father.
 - He satisfies every longing of our hearts.

(Vs) John 4:14 - "Whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again."

- Jesus is so valuable, and so satisfying, that He is worth everything we could ever hope to possess...
- As Paul said... (Vs) Philippians 3:8 - "I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ."

“To have Christ is to have everything our soul will ever long for.”

Jesus is *qualified*.

(Vs) Revelation 5:2-3 – And I saw a mighty angel proclaiming with a loud voice, “Who is worthy to open the scroll and break its seals?” And no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll or to look into it. and I began to weep loudly because no one was found worthy to open the scroll or to look into it. And one of the elders said to me, “Weep no more; behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals.”

- Remember the story of King Arthur and the sword in the stone? In the legend, the sword (Excalibur) could only be pulled from the stone by the “true king” -- the rightful heir of the throne.
- Many tried to extract the blade and failed, until one day, the boy Arthur came along and was able to free the sword from its place.
- When we read Revelation 5, we see a scroll in the hand of God the Father -- a scroll infinitely mightier than Excalibur and there is no one worthy to take it from his hand and open it.
- That is, until Jesus, the True Hero, comes on the scene.

(Vs) Revelation 5:9-10 – “Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth.”

- Because Jesus became flesh, lived a perfect life, and bled on the cross to absorb the wrath of God for the sin of mankind, he is qualified to take the scroll.
- He has the credentials to be the sovereign Lord of all the universe. He is the rightful King.

Jesus is *deserving*.

(Vs) Revelation 5:12 – “Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!

- Because of who Jesus is and what he accomplished, he is infinitely deserving of all attention, all glory, all praise, and all honor in heaven and on earth...

(Vs) Romans 11:36 – “For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be glory forever. Amen.”

Jesus alone is deserving of it all.

- And so, through him we find our own completion made true!

(Vs) Col. 2:10a (ERV) – “And because you belong to Christ you are complete, having everything you need...”

Closing Challenge:

- This weekend, as we celebrate what the Lord has done for our Churches...
- I couldn't think of a more important message for us as a Church family to proclaim than that Jesus Christ is Worthy of it all!
- May we never be distracted by our own accomplishments or accolades, but instead delight in Him alone forever and ever.
- I pray God grants us the eyes to see the infinitely valuable, infinitely qualified, infinitely deserving, infinitely worthy Lamb of God for who he is and what he is doing!