**Sunday, June 20**

**Going deeper**

**INTRODUCTION**

In order to understand what 1 Peter is saying about relationships in the next passages (1 Peter 2:13-3:1-7) it is important to get a sense of God’s larger plans for all relationships and how followers of Jesus ought to interact with the culture that the Lord Jesus has placed them in.

**READ** – *Read (passage) aloud. Read it several times. Listen for what the Spirit of God is saying, don’t just think about it.*

Genesis 3:1-19, 4:1-16, 6:1-18

John 17:20-23, Ephesians 3:14-19

1 John 4:1-5

John 1:14

1 Peter 2:11-12

**ENGAGE** – *Questions for going deeper. God is speaking… to you.*

1. Genesis 3 tells the story of humanity’s sin and brokenness. What happens to Adam & Eve’s relationship with God as a result of their sin? What happens to their relationship with each other?

2. In the other passages listed in Genesis what do you notice about humanity’s relationships with each other and God?

3. What would the world be like if those relationships changed for the better?

4. In Jesus’ prayer in John 17 what do you see as God’s intentions for relationships with God & others?

5. Read 1 John 4:1-5. What do you notice about separating from the world? What would be the advantages and disadvantages to this approach to culture?

6. Read John 1:14. What do you notice about engaging with the world and working for transformation? What would be the advantages and the disadvantages to this approach to culture?

7. Read 1 Peter 2:11-2. What do you notice about dual citizenship or being citizens of the Kingdom of God and citizens of the world? What would be the advantages and disadvantages to this approach to culture?

**PRAY** – *God has spoken. So, reply.*

\*Thank the Lord for the neighborhood, city, state, and nation He has placed you in. Pray for His blessings on each of them.

\*Ask the Lord to show you anything that dims His light shining through you. Ask for His forgiveness.

\*Ask the Lord to help you to see and follow the movements of the Holy Spirit today.

**LIVE** – *This is where the rubber hits the road.*

Jesus said, “But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.” (Matthew 6:33). As you look at your life how much time, energy, and effort is spent on seeking the kingdom of God. Be honest. Are there places that Jesus needs to be brought in? Will you do that?