

5. How does Jesus take on our limits? Read Hebrews 4:14-16 for context.

6. Reflect on Matthew 11:28-30 and the following quote. In what ways do we attempt the way of Jesus without adopting the lifestyle of Jesus?

“In this truth lies the secret of the easy yoke: the secret involves living as Jesus lived in the entirety of his life- adopting his overall lifestyle... Our mistake is to think that following Jesus consists in loving our enemies, going the “second mile,” turning the other cheek, suffering patiently and hopefully- while living the rest of our lives just as everyone else around us does... It’s a strategy bound to fail.”
-Dallas Willard

7. How does viewing the church as a gas station vs. an embassy effect the way we view community?

8. How can our small group practice living in God’s kingdom together?

The First Page (A Series on Genesis 1)

“5 Ways God is Not Like Us (Thank God!)” (Part 5)

Genesis 1:1, 3:1-8

God is _____ and we are not. That’s a good thing!

3 Questions about our limits:

1. Are Limits _____?

Genesis 3:1-2

Genesis 2:16

Jesus came, not in splendor, limitlessness, and power, but in an ordinary way, taking on our limits in _____.

Hebrews 4:15

Limits cultivate relationship and dependence on the one who is limitless.

2. How do I _____ limits as good?

Genesis 3:4-5

Matthew 11:28-30

"In this truth lies the secret of the easy yoke: the secret involves living as Jesus lived in the entirety of his life- adopting his overall lifestyle. Our mistake is to think that following Jesus consists in loving our enemies, going the "second mile," turning the other cheek, suffering patiently and hopefully- while living the rest of our lives just as everyone else around us does... It's a strategy bound to fail." -Dallas Willard

3. How do I live the lifestyle of _____?

Genesis 3:6-8

"There can be no maturity in the spiritual life, no obedience in following Jesus, no wholeness in the Christian life, apart from an immersion in, and embrace of, community. I am not myself by myself."
-Eugene Peterson

Resources:

- Book: John Mark Comer- The Ruthless Elimination of Hurry
- Upstream Podcast, "Finitude Isn't Fallenness" episode. <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/finitude-isnt-fallenness-kelly-kapic/id1526456111?i=1000580085858>
- Upstream Podcast, "Loving Your Limits" episode. <https://upstreamcc.libsyn.com/loving-your-limits-ashley-hales>

Personal Reflection & Small Group Questions

Please complete this study on your own, then bring it to your small group for discussion.

1. Looking back over your notes from this week's sermon, what particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?
2. Our culture says that anything is possible if we work hard enough, believe strongly enough, or manifest it in our lives. How has that mindset crept into your life and the life of your community?
3. Where have you encountered limits that at first were frustrating, but eventually led to freedom?
4. Read Genesis 3:1-2 & Genesis 2:16-17. How do Adam and Eve distort God's good limits for his creation and how do we do the same thing?