

East Side Church of God

Life Notes

Legos 4 Life--Futures
June 28, 2009

Text: Matthew 6:13

Future Focus #1: The kingdom of God that Jesus initiated gives us a glimpse of the real world.

For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen. – Matthew 6:13 (KJV)

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. It was Mary who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent to him, saying, “Lord, he whom you love is ill.” But when Jesus heard it he said, “This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.” Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. So, when he heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. Then after this he said to the disciples, “Let us go to Judea again.”After saying these things, he said to them, “Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I go to awaken him.” The disciples said to him, “Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will recover.” Now Jesus had spoken of his death, but they thought that he meant taking rest in sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, “Lazarus had died, and for your sake I am glad that I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.”— John 11:1-7, 11-15 (ESV)

Future Focus #2: The power of God demonstrated through the Holy Spirit invites us to participate in the real world.

Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?” She said to him,

“Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world.”—John 11:25-26 (ESV)

“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you. —John 14:15-17 (ESV)

Future Focus #3: Participating in the real world causes us to recognize that God receives all the glory from real life!

Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, “Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days.” Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?” So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, “Father, I thank you that you have heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I said this on account to the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me.”—John 11:38-42 (ESV)

Biblical Truth: What really matters in life is God’s activity in the world and in our life.

When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out.” The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.”—John 11:43-46 (ESV)