

CHAMELEON

Part 5: Choosing Another Way

Grant Fishbook, Teaching Pastor

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Myth: Chameleons only change their color to blend in with their surroundings

Fact: A chameleon also changes color as a signal of mood, aggression, mating behavior and staking territory

Key Question:

If someone came and examined my life, what would I be communicating about what I love and what I want?

1 John 2:15-16

Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in Him. For everything in the world—the cravings of sinful man, the lust of the eyes and the boasting of what he has and does—comes not from the Father but from the world. The world and its desires pass away, but the man who does the will of God lives forever.

What does it mean to love the world?

The cravings – preoccupied by gratifying physical desire

The lust of the eyes – craving material possession

The boasting – obsessed with personal status

What does it mean to not love the world?

I value God's love of self-control (Galatians 5:22-23)

I value God's love of generosity (1 Timothy 6: 17-19)

I value God's love of humble service (Matthew 20:28)

Time for a gut check:

Each one should test his own actions. The he can take pride in himself, without comparing himself to somebody else, for each one should carry his own load. – Galatians 6:4-5

How do I know if I love “it” too much?

If I can't picture myself parting with “it”, then it owns me more than I own it.

A Sobering Thought:

Everything of the world (*except the Word of God and people*) will pass away.

Ecclesiastes 5:19

Moreover, when God gives any man wealth or possessions, and enables him to enjoy them, to accept his lot and be happy in his work—this is a gift of God.

Recognize the source

Enjoy the blessing

Accept my role in God's plan

Learn to enjoy the work

What is real stands out and lasts for eternity.

Next Steps

Over the next month leading up to Easter, we will be focusing on bringing unchurched friends and family to CTK. You can help us prepare for this in two ways: through **Spring Cleaning** (see insert in today's program) and by **volunteering on Easter weekend**. Watch for opportunities next weekend in the areas of hospitality, children's ministry, and service production.

Small Group Questions

- 1) Do you have a crazy airline story? Share!
- 2) What is one thing that you love? What is one thing that you want? What do your loves and wants say about you?
- 3) In what ways do you love the world? In what ways are learning to love what God loves?
- 4) Have seen some personal growth in the areas of self-control, generosity and humble service? If so, how has this contributed to standing out against the bland background of the world?
- 5) Are you experiencing what is real? In what ways?
- 6) What do you need prayer for today?

OUR MISSION

To create an authentic Christian community that effectively reaches out to unchurched people in love, acceptance and forgiveness so that they may experience the joy of salvation and a purposeful life of discipleship.