

“Epic #6 –Our Broken Relationships with Others”

March 20, 2011

Dr. Joe Scruggs, Senior Pastor

Epic - Greatest story ever told is the story of God taking something really wonderful that had come from together and going to incredible lengths to put it back together.

Beginning Premise- _____

Key Question –What’s wrong? Why can’t we fix it?

Society’s Answers

- Lack of education
- Faulty Environment
- Flawed Political System
- _____

The Biblical Answer

- The problem is a heart that has been corrupted by the choice to do things our way instead of God’s. (Jeremiah 17:9, Matthew 15:19-20)

A Case History (Genesis 4:2-9)

Two Brothers-Two Choices (Genesis 4:2-5)

- Cain’s “heart problem”
- What they brought: Cain brought _____, Abel brought _____
- His response to _____. (Proverbs 12:1)

A Second Chance and a Strong Warning (Genesis 4:6-8)

- This is _____-God is a God of second chances
 - But there is a serious warning to be _____
 - What is crouching at our door?
-

Hide and Seek-Round II (Genesis 4:9)

- God cares _____ about the way we relate to one another.
- We are also called to be _____

(John 13:34-35)

Now What? What do we do to “fix” things?

- Start in the right place. Allow God to bring our heart back together.
- Start where we are.
- Humble ourselves and face the reality that we are helpless to fix this
- Pray we could see people as God sees them. (Mark 8:22-25)

Questions to Consider

Why do you think God had you here today? What do you think God wants you to take away from being here today (include the music, personal interactions, Sunday School, the sermon, etc.) as you make your decision?

What are some things “lurking at your door” that you need to deal with in order to have healthier relationships?

How have you been dealing with problem relationships over the past months? Has this approach been working well? Do you need to do something different?

Overall, how well do you think Christians do with following the “new command” Jesus gave in John 13:34-35? What is something you need to do in order to follow that command more closely?

EPIC

You don't have to be a rocket scientist to look at our world and realize that something has gone wrong. How did it get this bad? And how do we find our way out of this mess? In the weeks leading up to Easter we'll explore the epic story of a good creation gone bad and the price God paid to bring it back to Him. Over the next few weeks we'll tell that story in three chapters by walking together through the Old Testament in order to see what went wrong, what that means for us today, and what God has done to set things right.

EPIC: In the Beginning...

- 2/13: The Foundation
- 2/20: Living The Dream
- 2/27: Do You Know Your Enemy?

EPIC: Broken By Evil

- 3/6: Coming From Together
- 3/13: Our Broken Relationship with Ourselves
- 3/20: **Our Broken Relationship with Others**
- 3/27: Our Broken Relationship with the World

EPIC: The Great Rescue

- 4/3: Abraham, the Patriarchs, and the Exodus
- 4/10: The Judges, the Kings, and the Exile
- 4/17: The Life, Ministry, and Death of Jesus (Palm Sunday)
- 4/24: The Resurrection of the Son of God (Easter Sunday)

NOTES: _____

