

Friday

Listen to the Truth We Already Have

Today's Scripture Luke 16

The piercing alert of a smoke detector is designed to wake up and snap us to our senses. No one makes a soothing smoke detector. And truthfully, no one wants a smoke detector that is calming. That's not the job of a smoke detector.

Luke 16 is a smoke detector in the New Testament. It wakes us up to the reality of God's punishment and calls us to come to our senses before we are lost. In the latter half of the chapter Jesus tells the story of two individuals. Lazarus is a poor beggar and he sits outside the gates of a rich man. Both men die and enter eternity. Lazarus finds himself in a place of joy and peace. The rich man, on the other hand, is in a place of torment and agony. The rich man's wealth didn't keep him out of hell, and Lazarus's poverty didn't prevent him from being with the Lord. God cares about more than just our bank account. We also learn from Jesus that after we die, our destination is sealed. People cannot cross from heaven to hell or from hell to heaven. The rich man realizes that it is too late for him but begs that a warning could be sent to his brothers who are still alive. He is told that words of the Scriptures are sufficient to tell us all we need to know to be properly prepared for eternity.

We don't need a new person to tell us old news, we need to listen to the truth we already have!

Today, I will...remember that Hell is real and real people will really go there. I will resolve to live a godly life and tell lost people about the gospel. I will pick 5 people I know who are lost and pray for them. I will look for an opportunity in the next week to invite them to church or Bible study.