

Benediction: [Craig Hinman, 03/31/2019]

God is and I am not. But, we are God's image bearer! We are created to reflect God and His Character.

We are called to be holy, because God is holy.

I think Holiness is seeing ourselves as God sees us, no more, and no less, and living into that identity.

God's call in the garden, "Adam, Adam, where are you?" echoes down through the ages - Our name is being called as well. How do we respond to God's call, His invitation of doing life together?

God is and He has spoken. But, do we take God seriously; do we take His Word seriously?

God or not God? **Literally and practically, our life now and eternal rests in what we choose.**

I found these words of the late Father Pedro Arrupe, Senior Jesuit, during a time when I was struggling with my commitment, with my conviction and they literally transformed my walk with God.

*Nothing is more **practical** than finding God.  
That is, falling in love in a quite absolute final way  
What you are in love with,  
What seizes your imagination,  
Will affect everything.  
It will decide what gets you out of bed in the morning,  
What you will do with your evenings  
How you will spend your weekends,  
What you will read  
Who you know  
What breaks your heart  
What amazes you with joy and gratitude.  
Fall in love  
Stay in love  
And it will decide everything.  
~ Father Pedro Arrupe*

I started today with "We can love because God first loved us". 1 Jn 4:19-21. I'm ending with "Nothing is more **practical** than finding God, that is falling in love in a quite absolute, final way – choosing committed relationship."

**Live** into committed relationship, with God and wherever He has planted you. Here, if this is where you are planted.

We all need God and we need each other.

**John 13:34-35** "Jesus said, "Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."