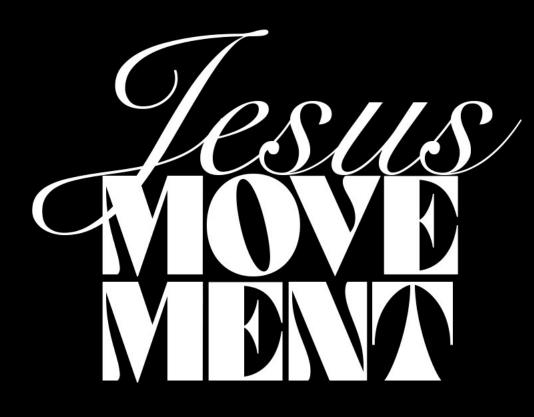
DR. BRIAN BENNETT **LEAD PASTOR** 

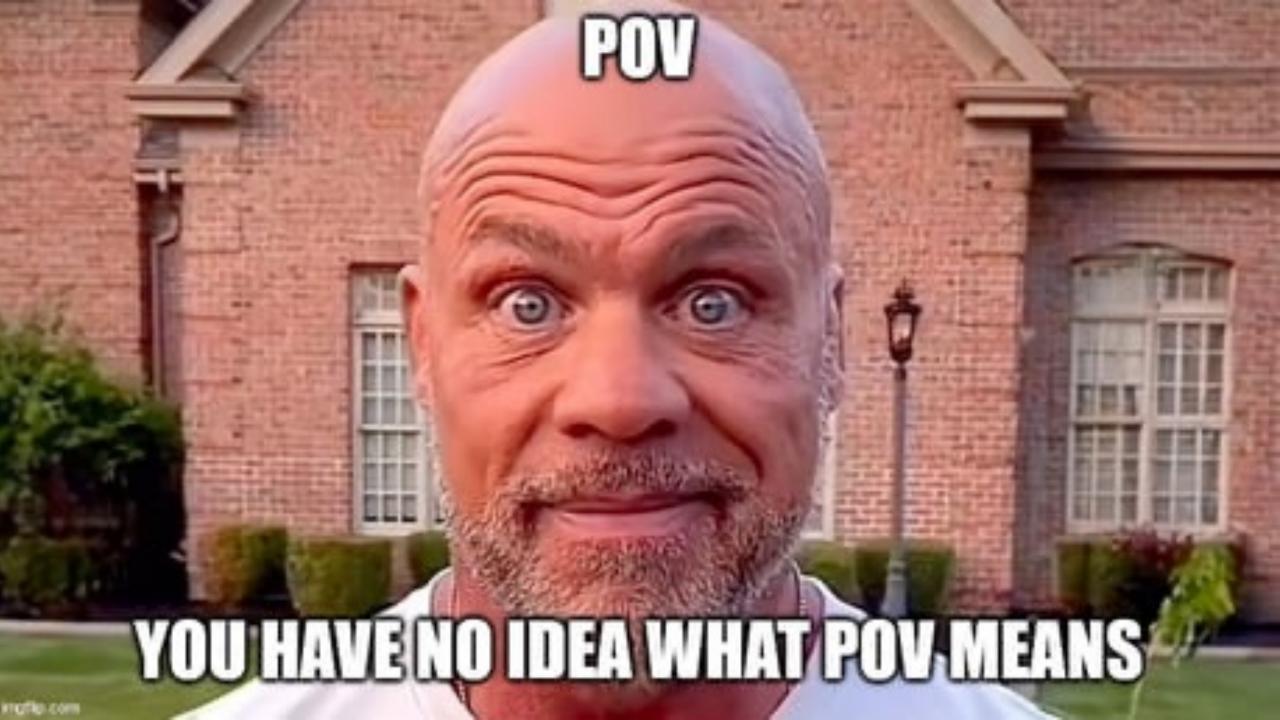


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SERMON NOTES
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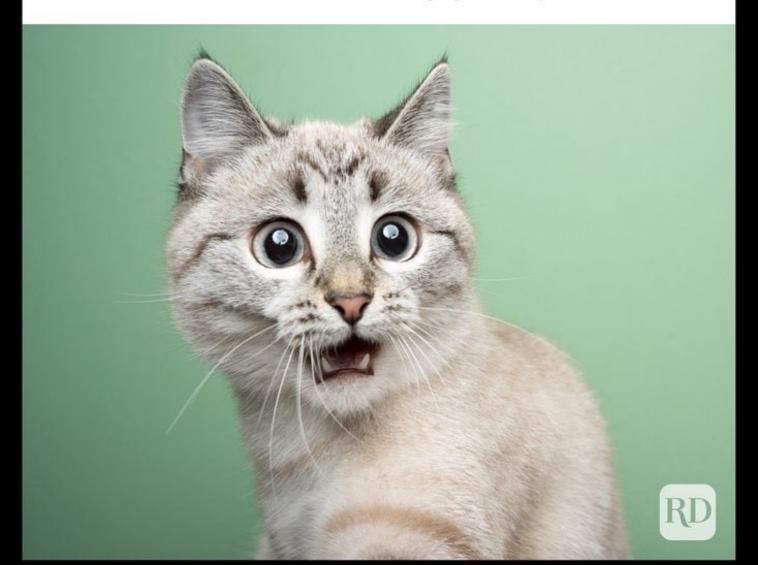




# POV: You're a leaf with good crunch potential:



# POV: Your boss catches you looking at funny work memes instead of doing your job





Now the full number of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one said that any of the things that belonged to him was his own, but they had everything in common. 33 And with great power the apostles were giving their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon

# **ACTS 4:32-37 ESV**

them all. 34 There was not a needy person among them, for as many as were owners of lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold 35 and laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need. 36 Thus Joseph, who was also called by the apostles Barnabas

# **ACTS 4:32-37 ESV**

(which means son of encouragement), a Levite, a native of Cyprus, 37 sold a field that belonged to him and brought the money and laid it at the apostles' feet.

**ACTS** 4:32-37 ESV POV: When <u>belonging</u> to the "lost and found" provides the "<u>blessed life</u>".

**ACTS 4:32-37 ESV** 

#### Jesus blesses us with:

A new <u>identity</u>

**GALATIANS 1:10** 

**GALATIANS 2:20** 

A new <u>purpose</u>

**GALATIANS 3:26-28** 

A new <u>community</u>

But a man named Ananias, with his wife Sapphira, sold a piece of property, 2 and with his wife's knowledge he kept back for himself some of the proceeds and brought only a part of it and laid it at the apostles' feet. 3 But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and to keep back

for yourself part of the proceeds of the land? 4 While it remained unsold, did it not remain your own? And after it was sold, was it not at your disposal? Why is it that you have contrived this deed in your heart? You have not lied to man but to God." 5 When Ananias heard these words, he fell down and breathed his last.

And great fear came upon all who heard of it. 6 The young men rose and wrapped him up and carried him out and buried him. 7 After an interval of about three hours his wife came in, not knowing what had happened. 8 And Peter said to her, "Tell me whether you sold the land for so much." And she said, "Yes, for so

much." 9 But Peter said to her, "How is it that you have agreed together to test the Spirit of the Lord? Behold, the feet of those who have buried your husband are at the door, and they will carry you out." 10 Immediately she fell down at his feet and breathed her last. When the young men came in they found

her dead, and they carried her out and buried her beside her husband. 11 And great fear came upon the whole church and upon all who heard of these things. 12 Now many signs and wonders were regularly done among the people by the hands of the apostles. And they were all together in Solomon's Portico.

13 None of the rest dared join them, but the people held them in high esteem. 14 And more than ever believers were added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women, 15 so that they even carried out the sick into the streets and laid them on cots and mats, that as Peter came by at least his shadow might fall on

some of them. 16 The people also gathered from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those afflicted with unclean spirits, and they were all healed.

POV: When you realize <u>hiding</u> in the dark is <u>dangerous</u>, but life in the <u>light</u> cannot be beat!

ACTS 5:1-16; HEBREWS 12:1-2; HEBREWS 12:28-29 ESV



# The greatest mistake you can make with evil is to overestimate or underestimate its influence.

**Carey Nieuwhof** 



#### Common cultural landmines:

- POV driven by <u>comparison</u> and coveting
- POV driven by selfishness and <u>scarcity</u>
- POV driven by <u>image management</u> and lying

# What helps us detect the landmines in our lives?

The **fear of the Lord** that has reverent awe and a healthy fear of displeasure and discipline.

HEBREWS 12:9-11; 28-29 ESV

Besides this, we have had earthly fathers who disciplined us and we respected them. Shall we not much more be subject to the Father of spirits and live? 10 For they disciplined us for a short time as it seemed best to them, but he disciplines us for

# **HEBREWS 12:9-11 ESV**

our good, that we may share his holiness. 11 For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.

# **HEBREWS 12:9-11 ESV**

Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe, 29 for our God is a consuming fire.

**HEBREWS 12:28-29 ESV** 

But the high priest rose up, and all who were with him (that is, the party of the Sadducees), and filled with jealousy 18 they arrested the apostles and put them in the public prison. 19 But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out, and said, 20 "Go and stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this Life."

# **ACTS** 5:17-20 ESV

# POV: When your <u>dream job</u> is following Jesus and He is <u>first</u> in your life

ACTS 5:17-20; 30; 38-42; MATTHEW 6:33-34 ESV

The real Son of God is at your side. He is beginning to turn you into the same kind of thing as Himself. He is beginning, so to speak, to 'inject' His kind of life and thought, His Zoe, into you; beginning to turn the tin soldier into a live man. The part of you that does not like it is the part that is still tin.

C.S Lewis

But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than men. 30 The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging him on a tree. 31 God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. 32 And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him."

# ACTS 5:29-32 ESV

So in the present case I tell you, keep away from these men and let them alone, for if this plan or this undertaking is of man, it will fail; 39 but if it is of God, you will not be able to overthrow them. You might even be found opposing God!" So they took his advice, 40 and when they had called in the apostles, they beat

# **ACTS** 5:38-42 ESV

them and charged them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. 41 Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name. 42 And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching that the Christ is Jesus.

# **ACTS** 5:38-42 ESV

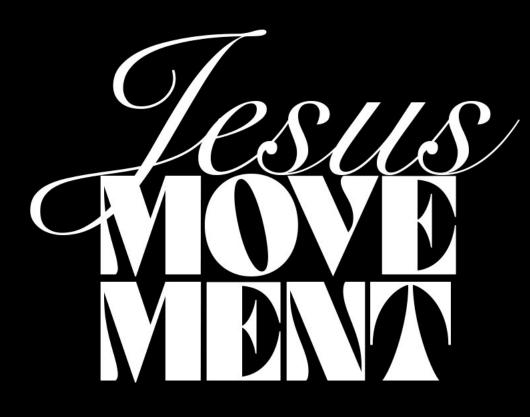
But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. 34 "Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.

# **MATTHEW 6:33-34 ESV**

#### NEXT STEP QUESTIONS

- Is Jesus informing your POV with your identity, purpose, and community?
- Will you upgrade your POV and bring what you have been hiding into the light?
- Will you make your dream job following Jesus and make Him first in everything?

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