THE WAY BACK TO ANALOG: WEEK 1: THE SHORTCUT

Lance Burch | Oct. 29th & Nov. 1st

Main Idea: Peace isn't a product. It's a person.

COMING UP

- Check reality.church/events to see details for men's and women's events happening soon!

PRAY TO OPEN

DISCUSS

1. What's something from the pre-smartphone or pre-internet days that you genuinely miss? What's something about today's technology you wouldn't want to give up?

2. What's one modern convenience or piece of technology that was supposed to make your life easier but sometimes makes it more complicated or stressful?

Everyone look up and one person read Luke 3:21-22 and Luke 4:1-14.

3. Before Jesus performed any miracles or began His public ministry, God declared His love and approval of Him. Why do you think it's so difficult for us to believe that our worth comes from who we are in Christ rather than what we accomplish?

***Where in your life do you feel the greatest pressure to prove yourself?

4. In the wilderness, Jesus faced three temptations: *Have it now. Have it all. Be seen.* Which of these three shortcuts do you find yourself most drawn toward, and why?

5. The sermon suggested that whatever captures our attention can eventually capture our devotion. What are some things in your life that receive more of your attention than you would like? How might those things be shaping your priorities, relationships, or spiritual life?

6. Jesus was led into the wilderness by the Holy Spirit. Sometimes God allows us to experience limitations, discomfort, or seasons of waiting rather than removing them. Can you share a time when a limitation or difficult season revealed something important about you or helped you grow closer to God?

RISK VULNERABILITY.

7. The sermon made the statement, **"Busy is a condition of the body. Hurry is a condition of the soul."** What's the difference between being busy and being hurried? How can you recognize when *hurry* is affection your relationship with God or the people closest to you?

8. We often turn to our phones, entertainment, shopping, or other diestrations when we're uncomfortable, bored, lonely, or stressed. What do you tend to reach for when you don't want to sit with your own thoughts or feelings? What might that habit be helping you avoid?

9. The sermon described the performance trap - the belief that we must accomplish something, meet certain expectations, or earn someone's approval to feel valuable. Finish this sentence as honestly as you can: **"I'll finally feel like I'm enough when _____."**

***How would your life look different if you truly believed God's love and approval weren't dependent on your performance?

10. Jesus said, "I am leaving you with a gift - peace of mind and heart. And the peace I give is a gift the world cannot give" (John 14:27). How is the peace Jesus offers different from the peace we often try to create through comfort, control, success, or convenience?

APPLY IT.

- The sermon challenged us to embrace limitations as a pathway to freedom.. What's one boundary you could establish around technology, your schedule, or your personal habits that might create more room for God and the people you love?

- During this four-week series, we're being challenged to give God the first hour of our day (or start with 15 minutes) and remove one digital shortcut. What specific shortcut are you willing to give up, and what do you hope God might reveal to you through that experience?

CLOSING REFLECTION AND PRAYER

This week, practice making room for God's peace instead of chasing it through another shortcut.

- *Start with God: Give Him the first 15-60 minutes of your day before reaching for your phone.*
- *Choose a limitation: Remove one digital shortcut for the next four weeks.*
- *Practice gratitude: Each evening, write down three things in your life that are already enough.*
- *Invite accountability: Share your commitment with someone in your group and encourage each other throughout the series.*

PRAY TOGETHER.