

Epic —Act 1

- 1) show opening scene from “Last of the Mohicans”
 - a. what do you sense as you’re watching that scene?
 - b. There seems to be something going on, something more than we first can tell
 - c. 3 men, running through a vast wilderness in search of something
 - d. 3 men, united by some greater cause
 - e. *Epic pg 19-20*

- 2) A picture of the Trinity
 - a. *How many here believe that Jesus was created to save mankind?*
 - b. Let’s read from the gospel of John (1:1-4)
 - c. Jesus always was
 - i. I never even realized this till the last few years
 - ii. That Jesus was with God from the beginning
 1. doesn’t that stir something up in you
 2. IN THE BEGINNING
 - a. All the great stories start that way don’t they
 - i. I T B or Once upon a time
 3. as Eldredge says (*pg. 18*)
 - d. not only was Jesus always with the Father, the entire Trinity always was
 - e. they exist outside of time – eternity is not a measurement of time it’s a different state of being
 - f. this is what God meant when He said He placed eternity on the hearts of men
 - i. not a never ending clock but a different existence, one that we all long for
 - ii. to be joined TO that eternity
 - iii. in essence eternity is God, it is the Trinity
 1. always was, always will be

- 3) With all that said, there’s one thing about God you have to understand
 - a. He has never been alone
 - b. At the heart of the universe is a relationship, a fellowship
 - c. And WE were birthed out of this
 - d. When God created man He said, “Let US make man in OUR image.”
 - e. We were formed from the Trinity, from a relationship
 - f. This is why we are relational to the core
 - g. Think about how you are
 - i. You desire relationship above all else
 - ii. A relationship with your father, mother, children, to be intimate with someone
 - iii. *Epic pg 22-23*

- 4) We were created from a relationship, from a Heart
 - a. From a Heart that created such things, as Eldredge mentions, as hummingbirds, kangaroos, eagles, tulips, mangoes

- b. Sunrises, jungles, mountains, the beach
 - c. The earth has all the marks of an artist's hand
 - d. And from the image of That you were formed
 - e. Where do you think your passions come from?
 - i. You're love of things
 - ii. What makes YOU come alive?
 - iii. Adventures, sights, sounds
 - f. All given by God, all imparted into to you as you were molded
 - g. Your TRUE identity is one of an artist of one who lives from the heart
 - h. Join your heart to His and you will find the part of yourself that you've always longed to live from
 - i. One that causes your heart to leap from inside your chest
 - j. You will find your true identity
- 5) We've been talking a lot about relationship and identity
- a. Loneliness might be the hardest cross we bear
 - b. The decision to forsake all, even a relationship w a sign other or having to leave our own parents or family behind to follow Christ is not easily done
 - c. It requires sacrifice and lot's of it
 - d. So when you chose to remain single or to go against what your family might be telling u b/c u know it is what God has asked for you...
 - e. You are choosing to bear that cross
 - f. And you WILL be rewarded
 - g. With the desires of your heart
 - h. Gal 6:9 – **“Let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we will reap if we DO NOT LOSE HEART”**
 - i. Not God's allowable will but His perfect will
 - j. One thing I've learned in my life is that at the moment that you are able to forsake your search for something on your own, it is at that moment that God can release his perfect will for your life
- 6) Don't fall into the world's trap of having to be with someone to bring yourself value or worth
- a. The enemy has played against our desire for relationship by influencing us to put aside our own search for Truth and to often compromise our own beliefs just to be “with” someone
 - b. This is why God desires a relationship w you –to be your source of worth and value, to be your validation
 - c. And for seasons of your life He will ask it to just be you and Him and no other b/c He wants you to learn to love Him, to be your first love – You were His –1 **John 4:19**
 - d. He wants you to know that love, true love, His love, last and that it will never fail you
 - e. Human love may, and one day all human love will pass, but God's love never will....it is eternal

