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Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ. (Colossians 1:28)

BEYONI THESE WALL

From Our Pastor

Dear Chapel Hill Family,

For 55 years, our sweetheart church has existed for the purpose of fearlessly and faithfully proclaiming the love of Christ, making disciples that make disciples, and releasing those disciples into our community and the world with that same life-changing message.

The **Beyond These Walls** initiative is a vision for the next three years of ministry at Chapel Hill.

We want to faithfully live out God's call to make disciples and love our city of Gig Harbor in greater measure. In order to accomplish this vision, we intend to retire the remaining debt on our building which will enable us to throw our energy and resources into ministry beyond these walls like never before.

We want 100-percent participation on this initiative. That's why I'm asking you to be a vital part. I truly believe, along with the Session, staff, and other key leaders of Chapel Hill, that the **Beyond These Walls** initiative will dramatically increase our missional impact. But I need your help to bring this dream to life. I invite you to join Cyndi and me in prayerfully considering how God is calling you to be a part of this collective mission to go beyond these walls in order to make disciples that make history.

Your brother in Christ,

Pastor Mark



Our Heritage

From generation to generation, reaching beyond these walls to make disciples has always been a part of our Chapel Hill DNA. That's part of what makes us such a sweetheart church.

You see it in the courageous vision of the 96 charter members of Chapel Hill Presbyterian Church when, 55 years ago, they determined the Lord wanted them to build a Presbyterian church in Gig Harbor. They bought 10 acres of land... surely more than they would ever need! And built a sanctuary to seat almost 300 people... surely larger than they would ever require! A group with less courage would have settled for less. But these visionaries believed God had called them to reach beyond themselves.

You can see it in the sweetheart love for our community when years later, instead of building a much-needed sanctuary, the Chapel Hill members who preceded us built a gym to serve the needs of the youth in the community because none existed. And when we were finally able to open our new sanctuary in 1997, it was not only a magnificent place in which to worship God, but it was also intentionally a gathering place for the entire community—for high school graduations, memorial services, symphony concerts, and more.

Why did they do it? How did these forerunners dare to stretch themselves to such a degree, serving not only their own interests but also the welfare of the city beyond the walls of Chapel Hill?

Because they believed there were others that would follow them. They had faith there would be others who would one day take the baton from them and continue this great relay race.

Our Call

Their faith was not misplaced. We are the ones for whom they sacrificed, dreamed, and prayed. It is our turn to take the baton and continue that race. *And it is our turn to recommit ourselves to our vision of loving our city like never before.*

In Philippians 2:4, the apostle Paul calls the followers of Jesus to "look not only to his own interests, but to the interest of others." *Imagine what it would look like if we, the people of Chapel Hill, increasingly turned our hearts beyond these walls to the needs of others.*

Surely we would be multiplying LifeGroups to make more disciples.

Surely we would be releasing leaders to be pastors and missionaries.

And surely we would be loving Gig Harbor as never before.

Our Future

This is how we believe God is calling us to make disciples that make history:

MULTIPLYING LIFEGROUPS Making disciples that make disciples

LifeGroups are where our vision for disciple-making hits the ground. We believe that LifeGroups are the future of Chapel Hill and desire that every member of our congregation is a part of one.

Our vision:

- Dozens more trained LifeGroup leaders, who are guiding others to make disciples in different relational networks and neighborhoods throughout the Gig Harbor area.
- An increase in professions of faith, a greater number of unchurched people being connected to the church, and more people discovering their purpose through ministering to others.
- LifeGroups would multiply themselves, raising up leaders within their own groups and sending them out.
- LifeGroups would form strategically in areas to the north of Gig Harbor with the goal of considering planting another Chapel Hill campus, reaching more people with the good news of Jesus Christ.

In order to do this, we need to provide greater pastoral oversight to this area, equipping and training coaches and leaders to empower this multiplying movement of disciple-makers. We also need to staff our church more strategically towards connecting current members of our congregation into LifeGroups and resourcing our LifeGroups as they serve within the community.

Further, we need to increase our childcare capacity so that LifeGroups of young families—the largest growing segment of our congregation—can easily meet together and reach other young families with the good news of Jesus.

RELEASING LEADERS Making disciples to be pastors and missionaries

Chapel Hill is committed to leadership development. But we need to do more! Without even trying we have raised up 15 people, including Ellis White, who have felt God's call to ordained pastoral ministry. Imagine what a blessing it would be to Christ's Church for us to be able to help even more recognize that call and respond to it! Our denomination has asked Chapel Hill to be one of four "beta" sites in the nation to develop a new approach to pastoral training.

Our vision:

- Intentionally and strategically help even more recognize their call to ordained ministry and respond to it.
- Make greater commitment to our denomination's request for Chapel Hill to be one of four "beta" sites in the nation to develop a new approach to pastoral training.

We've also sent out more than 20 missionaries to share the Good News of the Gospel. How many more are there who feel called to serve in other parts of the world as an ambassador for Jesus?

Here are just a few of our pastors and missionaries we have sent:

Pastors/Ordained Clergy:

Rev. Jeremy Vaccaro, Senior Pastor, First Presbyterian Church, Fresno, CA Rev. Erik Hanson, Pastor/Head of Staff, First Presbyterian Church, Boulder, CO Rev. Travis Fletcher, Lead Pastor, Bethany Community Church Eastside, Seattle, WA Rev. Mike Conan, Pastor, Cedar Creek Church, Sherwood, OR Rev. Jeff Chandler, Lead Pastor, First Presbyterian Church, Bakersfield, CA Rev. Shari Monson, Interim Senior Pastor, West Side Presbyterian Church, Seattle, WA Rev. Sara Koenig, Assoc. Prof. of Biblical Studies, School of Theology, Seattle Pacific Univ.

Missionaries:

Carol Erickson, Nairobi, Kenya Madeline Monson, Thailand Tiersa (Chaffin) Rogers, Swaziland Lance Brown, Israel and Palestine Doug and Debbie Burleigh. Former Soviet Countries Brad and Summer Scandrett, Young Life, Gig Harbor Rob and Jennifer Taylor, Zambia Jeremy and Kristalyn Simler, Costa Rica

LOVING GIG HARBOR Making disciples that make history

Chapel Hill has always been engaged beyond our walls.

- For more than 30 years, we have ministered to the women at Purdy Prison.
- Back Up Buddies and Las Amigas provide godly mentors for students in our community.
- Titus ministry has provided \$1.55 million over the last 18 years to support the needy in our community, the vast majority of them do not call Chapel Hill home.
- More than 20 years ago, we fostered a fledgling school. Today Lighthouse Christian School infuses Christ into the lives of 360 children, and many Chapel Hill families continue to play a core role in its ongoing mission.
- This only begins to represent the many local ways, not to mention international ways, we have been engaged beyond our walls.

Our vision:

- Free up resources to help local and regional organizations who have approached us for partnership—without gain or glory for ourselves, but only for love of Christ and community.
- Develop a Spiritual Venture Capital fund or "Kingdom Fund," from which Chapel Hill LifeGroups could seek seed money for projects that would bless Gig Harbor. LifeGroups would find creative ways through new partnerships and funding to scatter seeds of love and blessing throughout our community.

Imagine our "church on the hill" so deeply invested and engaged through its people in so many significant community initiatives that even those who would never want to be a part of the Chapel Hill family would weep if our church were not here.









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Your Part

Our church has been so blessed. We don't need more. It's time for us to give away more of ourselves for the good of others. Our goal... raise \$5 million over three years to eliminate our debt and release an annuity of \$600,000 per year for ministry!

5 12/11/01				
WEEKLY	MONTHLY	3-YEAR TOTAL	Number	Amount
\$10.00	\$43.33	\$1,560.00	of Gifts	of Each
\$15.00	\$ 65.00	\$2,340.00	Necessary	Gift
\$25.00	\$108.33	\$3,900.00	1	\$750,000
\$35.00	\$151.67	\$5,460.00	1	\$500,000
\$50.00	\$216.67	\$7,800.00	· · ·	\$300,000
\$75.00	\$325.00	\$11,700.00	2	\$250,000
\$90.00	\$390.00	\$14,040.00		¢100.000
\$100.00	\$433.33	\$15,600.00	4	\$100,000
\$125.00	\$541.67	\$19,500.00	6	\$80,000
\$150.00	\$650.00	\$23,400.00		
\$175.00	\$758.33	\$27,300.00	8	\$60,000
\$200.00	\$866.67	\$31,200.00	10	\$40,000
\$225.00	\$975.00	\$35,100.00	10	340,000
\$250.00	1,083.33	\$39,000.00	30	\$20,000
\$300.00	\$1,300.00	\$46,800.00		
\$350.00	\$1,516.67	\$54,600.00	60	\$10,000
\$400.00	\$1,733.33	\$62,400.00	100	\$6,000
\$450.00	\$1,950.00	\$70,200.00		<i><i><i>v</i></i>,<i>o</i>,<i>o</i>,<i>o</i>,<i>o</i>,<i>o</i>,<i>o</i>,<i>o</i>,<i>o</i>,<i>o</i>,<i></i></i>
\$500.00	\$2,166.67	\$78,000.00	200	\$2,000
\$750.00	\$3,250.00	\$117,000.00	400	ć1 000
\$1,000.00	\$4,333.33	\$156,000.00	400	\$1,000

3-YEAR GIVING CHART

GIVING PROFILE

Our building is not a fortress of faith for us to hide from the world. It is a base camp — a training ground — from which we send our people out and engage 100 percent in our community. God wants us to be agents of transformation and blessing to our neighbors in Gig Harbor.

God's love for us is unlimited and immense, and Jesus' sacrifice for us is living proof of that love. God has called all of us to work together to extend his Kingdom mission beyond these walls to others... to our community of Gig Harbor and the Key Peninsula... to Pierce County... throughout Washington... and to the world beyond. In gratitude and obedience we embrace that mission as our own.

Giving is a matter of discipleship. Where your treasure is invested, that is where your heart is also. As you grow in your relationship with Christ, your financial commitment to his Kingdom will also grow. Please consider your part in Beyond These Walls and challenge yourself to take the next step in Chapel Hill's mission.

	I believe I'm called to giving beyond my tithe to Chapel Hill.			
TITHING GIVER	I desire to faithfully give 10% of my income to Chapel Hill.			
INTENTIONAL GIVER	I want to be faithful to giving consistently, even if it's less than 10%.			
INITIAL GIVER	I want to begin giving to Chapel Hill.			



JOURNEY GUIDE IN THREE CONVERSATIONS

Each week we invite you to have three conversations:

- 1. Your reflections on the sermon
- 2. Your discussion with your LifeGroup
- 3. Your dialogue at home

Week 1: April 29-May 5, 2017



WEEKEND SCRIPTURE Acts 2:42-47

And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles.

And all who believed were together and had all things in common. And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need.

And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having favor with all the people.

And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

- THE POINT:

→What would it look like for Chapel Hill to "make disciples that make history?" Just look at the first-century church in Jerusalem.

SERMON REFLECTIONS:



LIFEGROUP CONVERSATION Making Disciples that Make History Acts 2:42-47



This week's passage is taken from the book of Acts, a letter written detailing significant moments in the life of the early church. This particular passage is one of the first summaries Acts offers of what church community looked like at this time. A group in close-knit fellowship with each other, who were devoted to learning about and worshipping Christ, gave and shared generously with each other, experienced the awe of many miracles and people coming to faith, and found favor with the surrounding community. Wow! What an incredible witness to God's work in their lives.

This depiction of the early church serves as an inspiring model for what our church community should look like. As your group considers this passage this week, allow plenty of time for dreaming and on visioning the way things could be if the church really did live this out. What impact could the church make in the world? What would be different, amazing, exciting? As we consider this as a model for where Chapel Hill is headed as we move beyond these walls, take seriously the difference *your* individual participation in this greater mission can make.

by Rachel White

HEAD

What are the defining characteristics of the church in Acts 2?

"All" and "every" appear frequently in this passage. Look at each one. What are they referring to?

What qualities directly impacted the community beyond the walls of the existing church community?

HEART

As you look down the list of all of these qualities, which is the one that you could work on that would help you grow?

What in this passage inspires you with a vision for your life as a believer and a vision for the life of the broader church today?

HANDS

What is your next step to invest into the life of your church community?

BEYOND THESE WALLS

What answer does this passage give to the question, "Why should I give to the local church?"

AT HOME DIALOGUE

Reflection

Take a few minutes to pray with your family. Ask God to show you how you can grow in your financial generosity.

Action

Over the next three days, open your checkbook, go online, and review your monthly spending.

Note the first transactions after you receive your monthly deposits. Write out where the first 10% of your finances goes. Does this represent your financial priorities?

Make note of anything that is keeping you from putting God first. Begin praying as individual members of the family about what God would have you give to **Beyond These Walls**.



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Week 2: May 6-12, 2017



WEEKEND SCRIPTURE Matthew 4:18-22

While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men."

Immediately they left their nets and followed him. And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

- THE POINT:

 Disciples that make history start by recognizing the call of God upon THEIR lives, not their neighbor's.

SERMON REFLECTIONS:



LIFEGROUP CONVERSATION Making Disciples that Make History Matthew 4:18-22



Just as Jesus left his hometown to begin ministry in Capernaum, he called the first disciples to leave their boats and nets. Jesus left behind his family and his hometown to take on his call of full-time ministry. The disciples were called to leave behind their profession, their possessions, and their families to take up this call. This was serious business!

In this week's study we will reflect on the call to leave behind an old way of living, and to turn to a new life. Jesus calls his disciples in this passage to be made into fishers of men. The concept of "fishing"—of evangelizing or making disciples—can be scary for many to consider. Before you go there, I encourage you to dwell on how Jesus is the one who will "make you" into fishers of men.

As we study today we are considering how we can wholeheartedly follow Jesus in what we leave behind and what we move toward. A key area of growth for many disciples of all stages is to be more "all-in" with our giving. Let the disciples be an inspiration to you today. Think about their example: how they left behind their sense of identity and security in possessions, family, and jobs and threw themselves into a new life of following Jesus with all they had. Just as you started to dream last week about a church that goes beyond these walls, continue to dream about how a church filled with wholehearted followers can impact a world so in need of Good News.

by Rachel White

HEAD

What did Jesus call his first disciples to do?

How was this beyond the walls of their normal life and world?

HEART

What has following Jesus cost you? Did you literally leave behind a place or a career or family like Jesus and these first disciples? Or has it been more of a changed perspective on life, a leaving behind of old behaviors or unhelpful relationships?

What do you need to let go of and leave behind to follow after Jesus whole-heartedly?

In your life, who are you calling to follow Jesus?

HANDS

What needs to change in your life this week as a result of being called to follow Jesus?

Is there something you need to give up, and/or is there a relationship you need to invest in so you have the opportunity to share your faith with others?

BEYOND THESE WALLS

When it comes to your finances, where do you need to leave behind an old way of thinking about your money and take on a new perspective where all you are and have is about following Jesus and being a fisher of men?

AT HOME DIALOGUE

Reflection

What's the last significant-to-your-budget gift that you gave? How did you decide to make that gift?

Action

Make a list of the organizations you have supported in the last three months. When you look at that list, what can you see that you value? Does this list reflect your family values?











Week 3: May 13-19, 2017



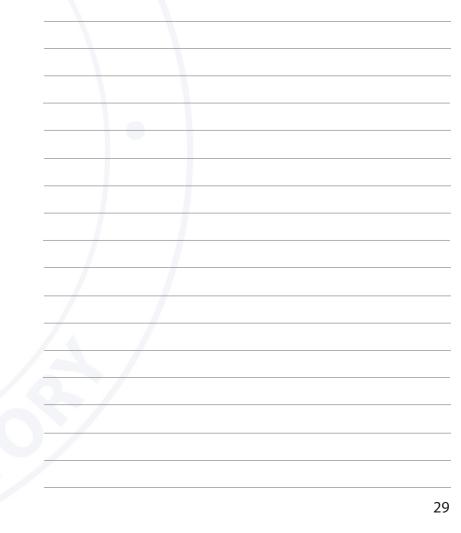
WEEKEND SCRIPTURE Matthew 5:13-16

"You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet.

You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven."

THE POINT: Disciples that make history live out their faith conspicuously.

SERMON REFLECTIONS:



LIFEGROUP CONVERSATION Making Disciples that Make History Matthew 5:13-16



Just as salt preserves and makes food taste good and the purpose of light is to brighten up the surrounding area, followers of Jesus are called to improve the world around them. Just as salt and light are useless when they don't taste like salt anymore or are hidden under a basket, it just doesn't make sense for believers to ignore the world around them—what's the point?!

Today's passage strongly cautions against becoming bland, lukewarm, and inconspicuous as followers of Christ. Jesus says our identity is as salt of the earth and light of the world. This reminds me of how I will tell my kids, "Don't behave like that, it's not who you are. You are kind and generous, and kind and generous kids share their toys." I bless the behavior that is good and connect that behavior to their identity instead of bad actions. At the same time, I give them consequences for continued disobedience.

This passage hints at some severe judgement for good-for-nothing salt. A common theme in Matthew's gospel is the strong connection between behavior and identity as followers of Christ. This passage is one of many examples of how it just doesn't make sense for a follower to not act like one. True followers will have both identity and action that leads others to see their "light on a hill."

As you examine yourself and your behavior as a follower of Christ, hear these words declared over you as a mark of your identity as one who belongs to Jesus. You are the salt of the earth. You are the light of the world. Jesus lives inside you and is transforming you to be a witness for him in the world.

by Rachel White

HEAD

What was the significance of salt and light to the original audience?

How does the passage describe the reason and purpose of being salty and shining your light?

HEART

Was there a season of your life that you can relate to losing saltiness or hiding your lamp under a basket? What led you into and out of that season?

How are you living distinctly as a follower of Jesus in a way that is conspicuous to those around you?

Have you seen people come to God as a result of your living differently?

HANDS

In practice, how can you be the salt of the earth and the light of the world this week?

BEYOND THESE WALLS

How does your giving reflect your identity as a conspicuous believer?

AT HOME DIALOGUE

Reflection

What kind of a giving culture would you like to see the young generation display? How are you living in order to foster that kind of a culture?

Action

Take a few minutes to complete the spiritual disciplines assessment on the next page. When you finish, write down and pray about where you would like to grow with God.

24-7 Prayer begins May 29 and ends on June 4. Don't forget to sign up and commit to an hour of prayer for **Beyond These Walls**.

Spiritual Disciplines Assessment

Instructions: Circle the number below each statement that best represents where you think you are currently. Use the scale below to rate yourself from 1 to 5 (1-not me at all; 5-definitely me).

I am growing through regular personal time devoted to studying the Bible and applying what I hear from God through his word to my life.

1 2 3 4 5

I am praying to God, confessing my sin, and seeking his guidance. 1 2 3 4 5

I am worshipping in community as part of my weekly rhythm.

I am individually worshipping God in solitude as part of my daily rhythm.

1 2 3 4 5

I am using my finances as a way to honor God.

1 2 3 4 5

I am active in praying for, caring for, and sharing the Gospel with others God has brought into my life.

1 2 3 4 5

I am regularly in community with other believers through serving or a LifeGroup.

1 2 3 4 5

Week 4: May 20-26, 2017

Courage

WEEKEND SCRIPTURE Matthew 14:25-33

And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, and said, "It is a ghost!" and they cried out in fear.

But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid."

And Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus. But when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me."

Jesus immediately reached out his hand and took hold of him, saying to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

THE POINT:

 Disciples that make history have the courage to step out when others step back.

SERMON REFLECTIONS:



LIFEGROUP CONVERSATION Making Disciples that Make History Matthew 14:25-33



There are so many emotions tied up in today's story. Jesus and the disciples had just recently received news about the beheading of John the Baptist, and in the midst of their grief, Jesus had performed miracles of healing and feeding the crowds who didn't want to give him any space! Jesus sends the disciples away in their fishing boat and dismisses the crowds himself, trying yet again to get a moment's quiet to pray alone. What must the disciples have been feeling as they sailed away?

Jesus appears to them walking on water in the dead of night in the middle of a storm and they are absolutely terrified! Jesus' response? To tell them, "Do not be afraid, it is I." It gets a little lost in our translation, but "It is I" is literally "I Am," as in the powerful, awe-inspiring words of God in the fiery bush with Moses in the Old Testament. Jesus' reassurance to them is that he is God. He is present, and he is powerful to save. There is no reason to be afraid of the physical storm, or the storm of emotions the disciples must have been experiencing.

Peter absolutely takes Jesus at his word, and courageously suggests that Jesus call Peter to himself. Peter walks on water too, for a moment, until he remembers the storm around him and calls out in fear again, "Lord save me." Jesus quickly saves him by taking Peter by the hand. In both instances of fear, Jesus responds with his presence and power as the one who created nature and is mighty to save. The mighty "I Am" is right there and willing to save us any time we call.

We need the reminder that Jesus comes out first to us. As we grow in faith, we will have the faith like Peter to go out and join Jesus. May we pray this week for a greater awareness of God's presence and power, enabling us to live courageously and without fear.

by Rachel White 36

HEAD

Compare and contrast the fear of the disciples before and after Jesus appeared.

How did Jesus respond to their fear?

HEART

In what way can you relate to Peter in this story?

What recent occasion can you think of where Jesus' powerful presence has calmed you or given you courage in the face of impossible circumstances or challenging emotional whirlwinds?

HANDS

How is Jesus calling you to have more courage to follow where he goes this week?

BEYOND THESE WALLS

Think about how your giving reflects your fear or your faith in Christ.

How can you give more courageously, trusting in the presence and provision of Jesus?

AT HOME DIALOGUE

Reflection

What would committing to change the direction of my giving do to me spiritually?

Action

On your family's calendar, mark a day this week when you will spend time reviewing your budget and financial planning. Set follow up appointments each month and be faithful in reviewing where your money is going. If you have a financial advisor or planner, make an appointment with them this week. Online, go to www.chapelhillpc.org and review the many resources available, including Financial Peace University.

Take time to pray and consider how you can contribute to **Beyond These Walls**.

Don't forget to sign up for **24-7** *Prayer* and commit to an hour of prayer for **Beyond These Walls**. **24-7** *Prayer* begins May 29 and ends on June 4.











Week 5: May 27-June 2, 2017

Confrontation

WEEKEND SCRIPTURE Matthew 16:13-20

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets."

He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?"

Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."

Then he strictly charged the disciples to tell no one that he was the Christ.

- THE POINT:

 Disciples that make history are willing to confront our enemy, the Devil.

SERMON REFLECTIONS:



LIFEGROUP CONVERSATION Making Disciples that Make History Matthew 16:13-20



Have you ever been asked what you think about someone and felt like all eyes were on you as to how you respond? Jesus asked the disciples to tell him what they thought about him, just after asking them to describe what everyone else thought of him. If ever Jesus issued a test, surely this is it! Peter, as usual, is the brave one who speaks up with his opinion and is praised for his response.

The responses of others regarding who Jesus is are in line with common messianic expectations at the time. They reveal that popular opinion said Jesus was not the Messiah himself, but certainly someone important, sent by God with a message worth listening to. That's not too far from popular opinion. How distinctive, then, was Peter's confession. It was radical for him to claim Jesus was more than just a holy man, more than a prophet, and more than someone with teaching worth listening to.

As you consider your own beliefs today and take the time to contrast them with those of the world around you, take this opportunity to affirm or reaffirm your belief in who Jesus is. What difference does it make for you that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God?

by Rachel White

HEAD

What did people have to say about the identity of Jesus?

HEART

What different opinions do your friends and families have about who Jesus is? How do you respond to their opinions?

In what ways have you seen your LifeGroup and your church go "on the offensive" against "the gates of hell"? (Matthew 16:18-19)

HANDS

Give space in the group to discuss the step of making a confession of faith for the first time. You might be surprised at who has never declared aloud "I believe Jesus is the Christ." Give a chance to do this.

This week ask someone in your life, "I've been wondering, who do you think Jesus is?" Explore that question together.

BEYOND THESE WALLS

How does your belief about who Jesus is influence what you give your money to?

What next step can you take this week to make your giving more in line with your beliefs?

AT HOME DIALOGUE

Reflection

Am I ready to listen to God about what he might be asking me to sacrifice for him in this season? How will this be to his glory and my joy?

Action

What could you financially give to God easily? What amount would make that financial gift feel sacrificial?

Bring your carefully considered number and come together with your family to discuss what you would like to give to **Beyond These Walls**. Dialogue about any variance.

Prayerfully fill out your commitment card and bring it to worship on Saturday night or Sunday morning, June 3 and 4.









Week 6: June 3-9, 2017

Consecration

WEEKEND SCRIPTURE Matthew 19:23-30

And Jesus said to his disciples, "Truly, I say to you, only with difficulty will a rich person enter the kingdom of heaven. Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God."

When the disciples heard this, they were greatly astonished, saying, "Who then can be saved?"

But Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

Then Peter said in reply, "See, we have left everything and followed you. What then will we have?"

Jesus said to them, "Truly, I say to you, in the new world, when the Son of Man will sit on his glorious throne, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or lands, for my name's sake, will receive a hundredfold and will inherit eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last first."

- THE POINT:

 Disciples that make history view everything they possess as God's gift and consecrate it to his purposes.

SERMON REFLECTIONS:



LIFEGROUP CONVERSATION Making Disciples that Make History Matthew 19:23-30



If you can mentally picture a camel trying to get through a needle, you will see that Jesus is trying to show how it is not just difficult, but impossible for a rich person to switch their allegiance from money to God without God's miraculous intervention. Following Jesus comes at great cost, and without God's help it is impossible for us to do alone.

The disciples' astonishment at Jesus' reply might be because wealth was then regarded as a sign of God's blessing and favor. If it is impossible for a rich man to enter the kingdom, then it must be impossible for us all! It is impossible to be saved on our own strength, our own ability. But what is impossible with man is possible with God. He can empower us to leave behind everything and follow Jesus.

As is common in Jesus' depiction of the kingdom of God throughout the gospels, kingdom life is upside-down. Those who have given up much will receive much. The first will be last and the last, first. Jesus offers a future hope of eternal life that starts right now. Those who have given up family and homes and places for Jesus' sake will be blessed beyond measure.

There is a direct contrast between the way the disciples' culture valued wealth as a sign of God's blessing versus what Jesus says about eternal life as the true blessing. There is a subtle hint in the contrast between the way we think we can earn God's favor and true salvation and eternal life, which is a free gift or inheritance. The disciples will be given much more than they ever left behind, but it is a free inheritance, not an earned reward.

by Rachel White 48

HEAD

What do we learn about the cost of following Jesus?

What do we learn about how one receives eternal life/salvation/ entrance into the kingdom of God?

HEART

What have you given up to follow Jesus?

What have you gained?

With God all things are possible. Who or what seems un-redeemable that you can bring to God in prayer right now?

HANDS

Spend some time in prayer as a group thanking God for all he has given us. Speak out loud the blessings you have already experienced since following Jesus.

Who can you share your story with this week—your story of the cost of following Jesus, and the reward of following him?

BEYOND THESE WALLS

What can you consecrate financially, knowing and trusting that our inheritance from Jesus is one hundredfold what we could ever give?

AT HOME DIALOGUE

Reflection

Consider what comes to mind that I would not feel comfortable "explaining" to someone if they asked me why I didn't give something particular to God?

Action

Write down what it is that is keeping you from being truly sacrificial in your giving. Turn that into a prayer like,

"Jesus, ______ is keeping me from being sacrificial in my giving. Please provide ______ for me or please free me from ______."

Put it somewhere (bathroom mirror, sticker on your phone) so that you will be reminded of it daily. Each time you encounter this reminder, pray to God to release you from this road block and empower you to be free from it.











Week 7: June 10-16, 2017

Commandment

WEEKEND SCRIPTURE Matthew 22:34-40

But when the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together. And one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?"

And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets."

- THE POINT:

 Disciples that make history are known for two things: loving God and loving their neighbor.

SERMON REFLECTIONS:



LIFEGROUP CONVERSATION Making Disciples that Make History Matthew 22:34-40



In this text, Jesus has been tested by the Sadducees, and now the Pharisees decide to test the credibility of Jesus as a religious teacher. These experts in the law want to know Jesus' answer to their much-debated question: Which is the most important law? Jesus' wise response not only gives a final answer to the scholarly debate but provides for today's readers a simple, practical model for Christian living.

It's remarkable how Jesus gives them what they want by choosing two commandments, and yet also validates the whole of the Old Testament's teaching. Following all the law wholeheartedly was understood to be a way of demonstrating love for God. So, by teaching to love God and love neighbor, Jesus says that every single one of the commandments are important. These two commandments summarize the rest and therefore show that all of the Law and Prophets were important.

To understand this idea of the Law and the Prophets being upheld by these commandments at an even deeper level, we can consider Matthew's theme that Jesus fulfilled the Law and the Prophets (Matthew 5:17). He is the embodiment of these commandments and they summarize both his ministry and the life he calls his followers to. But Jesus didn't just fulfill them by saying they were all still valid and relevant; he prophetically fulfilled the messianic expectations of the Law and the Prophets. He became the person who made it possible for his followers to live this way too. All the Law and the Prophets depend on these commandments because all the Law and the Prophets point forward to Jesus, the fulfillment of these.

by Rachel White

HEAD

How are we to love God?

How is the second commandment (to love your neighbor as yourself) like the first commandment (to love God)?

HEART

Which is most challenging for you and why—loving God with heart, soul, and mind, or loving your neighbor?

Who is your neighbor?

HANDS

What does it practically look like to love your neighbor? How can you do this this week?

BEYOND THESE WALLS

How can you love God and your neighbor with your money?

AT HOME DIALOGUE

Reflection

List out the financial commitments that you have—those that go beyond a one-time payment (and have a time duration to them).

Now, list out the commitment you are planning to make for the **Beyond These Walls** initiative. Number in order of priority where that falls in with these other commitments.

Action

Do I need to change or modify one or more of these other commitments in order to be able to fulfill my **Beyond These Walls** commitment?













WEEK 8: June 17-23, 2017

Compassion

WEEKEND SCRIPTURE Matthew 25:31-46

"When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. And he will place the sheep on his right, but the goats on the left. Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you velcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.'

Then the righteous will answer him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?'

And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.'

"Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' Then they also will answer, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to you?'

Then he will answer them, saying, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

- THE POINT:

Disciples that make history care deeply for the things that Jesus cares for.

SERMON REFLECTIONS:



LIFEGROUP CONVERSATION Making Disciples that Make History Matthew 25:31-46



In this description of the end times, the Son of Man (another name used in the gospels for Jesus) is enthroned. He is the King and he enacts the final judgment. An image of sheep and goats is used to portray the way people will be separated like a shepherd separates out goats and sheep.

Goats are often the more obstinate and defiant of these two creatures, so it would be no surprise to Jesus' original hearers the role they play in the story. The sheep are those who (appropriately for sheep!) follow Jesus and mimic his behavior. They love others like they love themselves, and radically care for the vulnerable, needy, and social outcasts. They act like Jesus did in his earthly ministry. The mark of the sheep is behavior which cares with compassion for the hungry, thirsty, stranger, needy, sick, imprisoned. The goats, on the other hand, do not have compassion and do not treat others in this way. I think it is implied by the choice of such a defiant, stubborn creature in this image that this behavior is typical of a rebellious person rejecting the ways of God.

It is interesting that just as you can tell a sheep and a goat apart by looking at their behavior, the Son of Man will tell us apart by looking at our behavior. It shows who(se!) we really are and who is at work in the core of us, changing us to be more like him.

By including this story, Matthew once again shows us that righteousness pervades every aspect of Jesus' teaching. He expects his sheep to act like him at all times, with all peoples, even when we aren't expecting the judge to be watching. The way we treat others, with or without compassion, is personal to Jesus—it is the way we are treating him.

by Rachel White

HEAD

What are the qualities of the sheep and the goats? Who do they represent?

What happens to the sheep and the goats?

Who does Jesus say that he identifies with?

HEART

What is challenging or convicting to you about this passage?

How is the Holy Spirit transforming you, even right now as you read this, to become more like the sheep in the passage?

Who can you point to in your life who lives like those on the King's right hand side in the story?

HANDS

What are you going to do differently as a result of the study today?

Who can you care for with the compassion demonstrated in this story?

AT HOME DIALOGUE

Reflection

Are there any changes in your soul due to the way you have reflected on finances during this initiative?

Action

Reread Acts 2:42-47, where we started this initiative with the image of a Spirit-filled community that gives beyond their walls.

Pray to God as a family, thanking him for the resources you have and asking his blessing as you share those.



Questions & Answers

What is our primary goal?

Our goal is 100-percent participation to raise \$5 million over three years and eliminate our debt so we can invest more in our community.

Can Chapel Hill raise \$5 million beyond our annual budget needs?

We believe \$5 million is an attainable goal. Evangelical churches typically raise around 1.5 times their annual giving in a financial initiative. Mature disciples of Jesus Christ are generous with their time, spiritual gifts, and financial resources. Sacrificial giving looks different for every person. If we give sacrificially, we will not only easily meet our goal, but exceed it, experiencing God's amazing blessing in the process.

What is the Commitment Card and what is the best way to give to Beyond These Walls?

First of all, we want you to begin talking through the At Home Dialogue questions in this Journey Guide and praying about giving. Then prayerfully complete the giving Commitment Card where you can indicate what you plan to give over the three-year campaign period. Bring your commitment card to worship services on the weekend of June 3-4 as we consecrate the commitments we are making in this initiative. This card is vital as it informs Chapel Hill on what to expect and how to wisely plan expenditures.

When the time comes to begin giving, a number of methods are available including:

- Online giving through Chapel Hill Connect, which can be used for all giving to Chapel Hill.
- Using special envelopes with the Beyond These Walls logo
- Stock gifts. To arrange a stock donation, contact Dawn Davis at ddavis@chapelhillpc.org for more information.

Will giving to Beyond These Walls have a negative effect on funding for the annual budget?

We do not expect **Beyond These Walls** giving to have an adverse effect on the normal operating budget. We believe that as we faithfully follow the Lord's leading, and as our people mature in their understanding of generosity, giving to the annual budget will remain strong and even increase.

How do we see God working through Chapel Hill during the Beyond These Walls initiative?

We are praying that as we impact lives through our project, the faith of our Chapel Hill Church family would grow deeper and stronger. We also see God's heart of love for our area growing in people as we dream together about expanding our impact in the community with the Good News of Jesus and blessing them with God's heart of service. We are confident that will happen as we go **Beyond These Walls** to bless, serve, and disciple our wonderful community of Gig Harbor.

Why are we considering church planting?

Church planting is an excellent way to reach a community with the gospel of Jesus Christ. Studies show that not only are church plants the most effective workers for evangelism, but the sending church grows at an equal rate with the church plant, returning to a similar sized congregation within six months. Thankfully, often both churches continue to grow.

Have we been able to reduce our indebtedness? What is our indebtedness currently?

We will never regret taking on that debt because it allowed us to build facilities that have served this community and the region in a spectacular way. We have paid off debt ahead of schedule and knocked down nearly half of it, which started at nearly \$10 million. Nevertheless, it costs us \$600,000 a year to service this debt and our dream is to imagine what God could do with that \$600,000 annuity if we could invest it in disciple-making and history-making, year after year.

Will I be able to change my three-year commitment if I need or want to?

Of course! Unforeseen circumstances may cause you to want to increase or decrease your giving commitment in the future. At any time during the 36 months, you can review or change your commitment online at Chapel Hill Connect, or you can ask for another Commitment Card and turn it in with your revised commitment.

What if I can't afford to give right now?

There are seasons of life for us all that are tighter financially than others. Giving in the way of Jesus is not a matter of how much; giving for Jesus is a matter of the heart. Even in times of scarcity, God wants our hearts. The widow who gave her last mite did not make a very big financial contribution, but Jesus said she gave the largest gift of all. **Beyond These Walls** is about all of us coming together, giving generously, and trusting God to do the rest. It may mean that God is asking you to trust him by making a faith commitment that you do not know how to fulfill right now. God has supplied our every need in Christ, and we trust that he will honor a heart that wants to give generously in response to the gospel. Going **Beyond These Walls** applies to all of us, together — for each other, for our neighbors, and for our world.

There may also be ways to be sacrificial with your lifestyle to create margin for generosity in your life. Some will cancel cable, and some will ditch the smart phone plan and return to a basic mobile phone. Others will play a little less golf and still others will forgo a few lattés every week or children's sports expenses. Some families will buy a smaller home or rent a smaller apartment to be able to give generously for the progress of the gospel.

Find ways to involve the entire family in the process of giving generously. Use this as an opportunity to teach children and grandchildren to obey the Lord with a generous heart and to trust him. This is a great opportunity to take a look at our overall stewardship of all that God has entrusted to us.

What if I'm severely in debt right now? Am I still supposed to give? It's important for generosity to be a part of our lives at every point. If you are in the process of paying off debt, we commend you, and you should continue to do so. But, the Bible does not teach that we withhold giving until we are debt-free. When we honor God first with our giving, he promises to be involved with every other aspect of finances. Contact us if you would like to speak with a volunteer financial coach.

Also, we invite you to attend one of our Financial Peace University sessions, where you will not only learn some great principles of personal finance but also God's perspective on our stewardship of his resources. Contact Dawn Davis at ddavis@chapelhillpc.org for more information.

As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. (1 Peter 2:4-5)



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