

Group Check up Number 3- Making a Difference

show Fireman Failure video

A fire station has a purpose it has a reason to be there. If all the fire stations in Memphis stopped fulfilling their purpose, we'd have a lot of problems.

Last week we talked about our youth group traditions. Some good, and some that need to change. Today let's talk about our purpose. As a group of people declaring Jesus as our Lord. As a group of people who are declaring, we want Jesus to transform us by His Spirit, we have a purpose.

Bibles Turn to Matthew 25: 31-46

While turning. Jesus is with his Disciples and the last supper is coming up in two days. He is spending time with them before hand and tells them these three parables. All of them talking about His return.

After He gives these three talents talking about, be on guard, you do not know what the day or hour will be when I come back, and use the time you have here wisely, he stops talking in parables and directly speaks to his disciples:

READ

PRAY

I used to be very afraid of this passage. But now I truly love it.

This passage shows the promises of what Jesus is going to do.

Jesus will come back. There will be no uncertainty about it. No ambiguity. He will come in his power and perfection and sit on the throne of glory and every person will see him.

We can hope for that, we can expect that and we don't have to worry about anything different happening than that.

He's going to be the perfect judge of all people. He won't look at us by how rich, how poor we are, the color of our skin, who's popular, who's not popular. Who's good looking, who is ugly as dirt. (that's great news for me!) The Lord will perfectly distinguish us by the righteous or unrighteous in the Lord.

Everything will be restored, and the Children of God will be BLESSED by God because of Jesus. BLESSED ARE YOU! COME to me!

I can't even fathom that! I can't even consider myself worthy of receiving a blessing from Jesus like that! Can you? We are such sinful people, yet God actively put into action a plan from the beginning to restore his sheep. I can't get over that kind of love!

He is going to show us our inheritance given to us!

Most people just read v 35 and the rest and say "I have to give someone water, I have to look after the sick, and I have to visit people in prison and that's my ticket to Heaven." That's completely backwards!

V 34- Jesus shows us that Heaven, and eternal life is something that we get by being a child of God! By believing and trusting in Jesus and accepting His Grace by faith.

I don't think many teenagers realize how RICH we are for those of us who are in Christ. How much we have gained, how much we have inherited. And how much punishment we have been rescued from!

(41)

If you truly believe in Jesus- you have been made rich because you have been given more than you could ever gain on your own! You have been given entrance to the kingdom prepared for you since the beginning of the world. Your place in that kingdom has been secure.

I could sing to the Lord forever because of what He has done for me!

Jesus shows us what Christianity really is supposed to be: What our purpose is

v 35-40

True Christianity is “Faith Working by Love” “We talked about the backwards way. We don't get saved from what we do. We do be because we have been saved by faith and love. Because of what Jesus promised to do for us and TO us as He makes us more like Him!

*****We have faith in Christ who loves us, and we make a difference in this world by the overflow of loving Christ going into others.*****

This is our purpose. We can't be like the fire station that doesn't go out to help people because they don't feel it/ or they may not be “ready” until every little thing get;s done first.: Firefighters help people because they are firefighters.

In this passage Jesus shows us that the righteous people will know that they have been saved by Jesus. They have The love of Christ in them and they will do anything to help others because that love overflows from them.

Here are some aspects of Righteousness we see and what our purpose looks like

1. Self Denial

Jesus says” Take up your cross and follow me”

Luke 12:33 Sell your possessions and give to the poor. We stop claiming ownership

2. Love to our Brothers- Mark 12: Love your neighbor as yourself

You can do this in so many ways.

We're going to feed and cloth the homeless Sunday. How many of you haven't been because it's just too busy or I want a nap Sunday! DENY YOURSELF and feed the hungry! Come with us Sunday!

Friend that school classmate who needs a friend.

PRAY FOR THEM! DO FOR THEM!

3. A belief/ a need for Jesus

I dont know about you, but I NEED JESUS. And this passage shows me that.

I need Jesus To save me

I need Jesus to grant me His blessings

I need to pray to Christ to give me a heart to love other people

I need Jesus to give me strength to say “it's not about me” and live a life for the least of these. For those that need help, for those that don't have

BECAUSE I realize that am RICH and He has given me SOO MUCH and done so much for me that giving a cup of cold water to someone who is thirsty is the LEAST I can do for someone else.

I need Jesus to kill pride that is within me to do it all for HIS GLORY!

Don't you?

Our purpose is to have a life like this. Notice the righteous people say: When did we do this. Their faith in Jesus overflowed out of their lives that loving others became natural to them. It was normal, they didn't even know they were doing anything special. It;s a part of life.

We as a youth group need to pray for Christ to do this in us. For those who are His Children He will.

And for those in the world that don't need Jesus. That are trying to work their way into heaven. Not really loving other people not really loving Christ or putting any faith in HIM to grow us, the rest of the passage shows us what happens to them. The reality of the consequences of our sins being unforgiven are clear. Separation from Christ forever.

IF you havent ever trusted in Jesus, you need to today. You can start a relationship by faith and repent of your old self tonight. If you feel like that's you and you need to talk to someone about it, get with your small group leader or me and let's talk it through.

If you have, I hope you are encouraged tonight to lean on the Lord to fulfill our purpose as a youth group. To love Christ, to make a difference in this world by loveing others.

Purpose

Matthew 25:31-46

The Promises Of Jesus:

Jesus will _____

Jesus Will _____

He is going to show us our _____

Jesus shows us What real Christianity is

Faith Working by Love=

What Christianity Looks like

1. _____

2. Love to _____

3. A belief/ a need for _____