

POINTING PEOPLE TO JESUS

We are called to point people to Jesus; this should be accomplished in how we live our lives.

KEY POINTS

- ❖ One of the main character traits of a follower of Jesus Christ should be that they are continually pointing people to Jesus.
- ❖ What does it mean to point people to Jesus? It includes referring people to Jesus as the one who can supply all of their needs.
- ❖ There are various ways one can do so. We can do this by praying for people, telling people about Jesus and by modeling a lifestyle of faith in Jesus.
- ❖ When we look at the ministry of John the Baptist in the Bible, we see a great example of what pointing people to Jesus looks like.
- ❖ Reviewing the experiences of John the Baptist helps us identify similarities between John the Baptist and ourselves as disciples of Jesus.
- ❖ The circumstances surrounding the birth of John the Baptist were miraculous. He was, quite literally, a miracle; a gift and blessing to his parents (Luke 1:5-25).
- ❖ Similarly, the born-again experience, the process of becoming a "new creature" (person) in Christ, is miraculous (2 Corinthians 5:17).
- ❖ Like John the Baptist, the disciple of Jesus should be a gift and a blessing to everyone they interact with for the purpose of pointing people to Jesus. This includes interactions with their families, their friends and their communities.
- ❖ From what is recorded in the scriptures, we see that John the Baptist lived a life that was separated from the world around him. As Matthew 3:4 tells us, his clothes were made of camel's hair and his food was locusts and wild honey.
- ❖ John the Baptist's lifestyle brings to mind the Apostle Paul's admonishment to the saints in Rome: that the disciple of Jesus should not be conformed to values and principles in the world that are contrary to the world of God (Rom. 12:1-2).
- ❖ As disciples of Jesus we must reject the philosophies, attitudes and behaviours promoted in our world that are clearly not in line with the word of God.
- ❖ It is when we are unwilling to conform to the ungodly practices of the world around us that we are able to point people to Jesus (see Daniel 3).
- ❖ When we look at what John the Baptist preached, it seems clear that he was committed to living in obedience to the word of God.
- ❖ What an amazing and powerful way to point people to Jesus—by living a life of obedience to the word of God!
- ❖ Not only did John the Baptist preach about living a life of obedience to the word of God, but he also preached about the coming of Jesus (Matt. 3:11-12).

KEY SCRIPTURES: John 1:6-8 NASB

- ❖ We, too, have a phenomenal opportunity to point people to Jesus. This can be accomplished by sharing with them our personal experiences with Jesus—our testimonies. As Romans 17:10 says, "So then faith *comes* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."
- ❖ John had an attitude of humility, choosing to defer attention away from himself and directing the attention of the people that he interacted with toward Jesus (John 3:30). It is with this same attitude of humility and focus that the disciple of Jesus can point people to Him.
- ❖ Now, it is important for the disciple of Jesus to recognize that living in obedience to the word of God doesn't exempt them from experiencing trials, tragedies and disappointments.
- ❖ These things do not diminish the effectiveness of a disciple in pointing people to Jesus; rather, it enhances it.
- ❖ What a powerful testimony it is when someone who has experienced trials, tragedies and disappointments in life continues to live in faithfulness to Jesus! This has the potential of being an amazing tool for pointing people to Jesus in the same manner as was seen in John the Baptist's ministry (Lk. 1:14-17).
- ❖ The entire life of a disciple of Jesus should be devoted towards loving Jesus and living in harmony with Him through prayer and faithfulness to the word of God.
- ❖ It is in choosing to live life this way that the disciple of Jesus points people to Jesus.
- ❖ It is as Jesus said to his disciples: "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden...." (See Matt. 5:14-16.)
- ❖ In the end, Jesus stated that John the Baptist was the greatest prophet born of women (Lk. 7:28). These comments really emphasize the value of pointing people to Jesus.

DISCUSSION/REFLECTION TOOLS

1. As a disciple of Jesus, why is it important to point people to Him? List and discuss two practical ways in which we can do so.
2. What do you think John the Baptist meant by saying Jesus must increase while he (John) decreased (John 3:30)?
3. What role do you think the attitude of John the Baptist played in making him an effective example of pointing people to Jesus?
4. How do Jesus' comments in Matt. 5:14-16 help the disciple of Jesus in pointing people to Him?

PRAYER TIME

Lord, please empower me to live a life that is a powerful witness in pointing people to you. In Jesus' name, Amen.

WEEK OF SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2021

NOTES

Meditate as you read through/listen to this week's message. If it helps, use symbols for your notes.

✓ (Reminds me/Confirms) 💡 (New idea) 🧠 (Think about)

! (Do this) ❤️ (Speaks to my heart) ↔ (Must share)

PRAYER NEEDS/THANKSGIVINGS

Go deeper with your Life Group family.
CONNECT-REFLECT-DISSECT THE WORD
Your Life Group ~ Your Lifeline

Start-up: What is your testimony? Share something God has done in your life (either recently or something in the past).



ANNOUNCEMENTS

TO SUBMIT A BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENT

Obtain approval from Head of Department and send to announcements@faithsanctuary.com by Wednesday @ 4:00 p.m. (If projection is desired send to media@faithsanctuary.com.)

FAITH SANCTUARY DONATIONS

To donate online, please go to www.faithsanctuary.com/give
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Jesus bids us shine with a clear, pure light,
Like a little candle burning in the night;
In this world of darkness, we must shine,
You in your small corner, and I in mine.

Jesus bids us shine, as we work for Him,
Bringing those that wander from the paths of
sin;
He will ever help us, if we shine,
You in your small corner. and I in mine.

FAITH SANCTUARY ON-LINE SERVICES

SUNDAY @ 10:15 a.m. – Sunday Bible Study
SUNDAY @ 11:00 a.m. – Worship Service LIVE
SUNDAY @ 3:00 and 8:00 p.m. – Worship Service
Rebroadcast
MONDAY @ 6:30 p.m. – Berean Bible Study on
Zoom, Facebook, YouTube
WEDNESDAY @ 7:00 p.m. – Worship Service
Rebroadcast

FAITH FOUNDATIONS

GOD

We believe there is only one God: the eternal, holy, loving, all-knowing, all-powerful, omnipresent Spirit, creator of all (Deuteronomy 6:4; 1 Timothy 1:17; Leviticus 19:2; 1 John 4:8; Hebrews 4:13; Revelation 19:6; Jeremiah 23:24; John 4:24; Isaiah 44:24; Colossians 1:16).

GOD’S WORD

We believe the Holy Scriptures—The Bible—is God’s true and complete Word to humanity, verified most notably through fulfilled prophecies concerning Jesus Christ (2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:20-21; Isaiah 41:21-23, 42:8-9, 46:9-10; Luke 24:25-27; John 17:17).

GOD’S CREATION

We believe all people were created in the image of God for His pleasure, to be His children, His church and His bride, living in eternal love and fellowship with Him (Revelation 4:1; Genesis 1:27; John 1:12-13; Romans 8:16; Ephesians 5:25-32; Revelation 19:7).

HUMANITY’S FALL

We acknowledge that we have all sinned and failed to fulfill God’s plan and purpose for our lives, through willful disobedience to the word of God and our own conscience. All sinful acts lead to separation and alienation from God’s pure, holy presence, eventually resulting in both physical and spiritual death (Romans 3:23, 6:23a).

THE GOSPEL

We believe that Jesus Christ is the Almighty God, fully divine and fully human (1 Timothy 3:16). He came to Earth and suffered death by crucifixion, willingly substituting Himself for us in receiving God’s judgment against sin (Isaiah 53:5). But God raised Him from death (Acts 5:30), and He now offers eternal life to all who will believe in Him (John 3:14-17, 6:29; 2 Corinthians 5:18-21; Romans 6:23b; Ephesians 2:4-9). Faith is sparked within us when we hear the gospel, the “good news” that Jesus died, was buried and rose from the dead for our benefit (Romans 10:14-17; 1 Corinthians 15:1-4).

OUR FAITH RESPONSE

Hearing the gospel is intended to lead us to repentance, a divinely inspired change of heart that causes us to turn away from our sins and turn to God (2 Corinthians 7:9-10; 2 Timothy 2:24-26). Faith and repentance lead us to obey the scriptural command to be baptized in Jesus’ name for the forgiveness of our sins and to receive His gift of the Holy Spirit. His Spirit gives us the power to live a righteous, godly life, joyfully sharing the good news of our new life in Christ with others (Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38, 4:12; 1 Peter 1:22-23).

CHRIST’S RETURN

We believe our Lord Jesus Christ will soon return to Earth to receive His people to Himself and establish His righteous, eternal kingdom (John 14:3; Matthew 25:34).



2021 ~ Live It! ~ 2021

Pastor: Rev. Granville E. McKenzie

“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 the lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. Your light must shine before people in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.”

Matthew 5:14-16 NASB

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