

THIRD DAY VISION

Like Christ, let us commit to “third day vision”—the value of impact and accomplishment over what’s immediate.

KEY POINTS

- ❖ The text of Mark 15:25-32 deposits us into an incredibly painful situation: the moment of crucifixion at the third hour.
- ❖ It’s uncomfortable to think about the violence of the crucifixion. This is the scene that Jesus, in the Garden of Gethsemane, asked to be spared from, the cup He asked to avoid drinking (Mk. 14:36).
- ❖ None of us have endured the horrors of crucifixion. We don’t carry the scars of nails in our wrists and feet or the memory of a long, drawn out asphyxiation played out publicly on a hill in the ancient Roman Empire. But a great many of us have gone through a battery of seriously inconvenient moments that has caused no shortage of difficult circumstances. And, so, we are able to relate, in a small way at least, to some of what Jesus experienced in the text.
- ❖ To add insult to injury, as Jesus is hanging there—physically suffocating, spiritually bearing the weight of our sin—He’s being mocked and ridiculed by some of the very people He’s dying for. “Look at You.” “You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, save yourself! Come down from the cross” (Matthew 27:40).
- ❖ The parallels continue as we think of our own lives. We step out on faith and people estimate the date of our failure. We go through soul-crushing situations and people laugh at us. Mockery and derision surround us.
- ❖ With so many people taunting Him, why didn't Jesus come down from the cross? He could have spared Himself the pain of what was coming if He had just tapped into the miraculous ability He had been demonstrating throughout His life and ministry.
- ❖ It would have been easier—convenient—and certainly less painful if He had gone with the immediate option and come down, taking Himself *out* of that situation. But, as Scripture shows us, He was determined to go *through* it (Hebrews 12:2).
- ❖ So, why did He go through it? This is a critical question because many of us are in situations right now that we’d rather be *taken out of* than *go through*.
- ❖ But we are followers of Jesus and that means we have a unique relationship with pain. We have a unique understanding of process. We have a theology of suffering. And it is rooted in the example we see Jesus setting at Calvary.
- ❖ Jesus knew His suffering served a greater purpose. He knew that on the third day He was going to rise again. He knew that after the Sabbath, when Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Salome went to His tomb, they were going to see the stone at the entrance rolled back. He knew they were going to encounter an angel dressed in white who would let them know that He was risen (Mk. 16).

KEY SCRIPTURE: Mark 15:25-32 ESV

- ❖ Jesus also knew that those same women would deliver the first Resurrection Sunday sermon to the apostles, whom He would later commission to carry the message of the gospel throughout the world. They would make disciples of all nations, launching the Church, of which we are members today.
- ❖ It is the power of the Resurrection that cements the triumph of God over sin and allows us to walk in newness of life. It is because Jesus rose again that we are not defined by our worst mistakes but by the grace of God. But in order for Jesus to rise again, He had to die. He could not come down from the cross.
- ❖ Jesus had to go through the horror of the cross so that we could benefit from the beauty of the empty tomb and have permanent breakthrough and transformation. He had to go through the horror of the cross so that we could receive “the spirit of adoption”, becoming “joint heirs with Christ” (Romans 8:15-17).
- ❖ He endured the cross because He had “third day vision.” He chose impact over immediacy because He was driven by His love for us.
- ❖ Scripture tells us of the sweeping drama of the love of Jesus Christ that wraps all of creation within its scope. His embrace is always wide enough for “whosoever” (John 3:16), but is at the same time intensely focused and personal.
- ❖ It is this love that drove Jesus to stay the course when He was on that cross. Love is what brings third day visions to pass.
- ❖ As we consider our own stories, many of us, if not all of us will find that we are in a season requiring us to have third day vision. There are areas where we’re asking God to take us out; but the Holy Spirit, the same power that raised Jesus from the dead and that resides in us, wants to bring us through.
- ❖ We can't come down. Whatever our cross may be, we can't come down. So, let us lock in to the third day vision and pray for the strength to see it through.

DISCUSSION/REFLECTION TOOLS

1. Have you ever experienced a “third day vision” and chose the value of impact over immediacy? In what situation did this occur and how did you come to this decision? What was the result?
2. Have you ever done the opposite and chose immediacy over impact? What was the result?
3. Take time to pray and ask God for the strength to lock in to “third day vision.”

PRAYER TIME

Lord, please help me to have “third day vision” to see what You desire to accomplish through my life.

WEEK OF SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 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: Is there a task you hate doing, but you have to do anyway? What is it and how do you cope getting through it?



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
For email transfers, please use donate@faithsanctuary.com

“Take up thy cross and follow Me,”

I hear the blessed Saviour call;

How can I make a lesser sacrifice,

When Jesus gave His all?



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).

FEBRUARY 14, 2021

Faith SANCTUARY

Know Jesus, Love Jesus, Share Jesus

2021 ~ Live It! ~ 2021

Pastor: Rev. Granville E. McKenzie

*“Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, ² looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.”
Hebrews 12:2 ESV*

1901 Jane St, Toronto, Ontario M9N 3T9
Phone: 416-244-4898
Emails: mail@faithsanctuary.com;
pray@faithsanctuary.com
Website: www.faithsanctuary.com