

Sermon Notes

HIStory and Your Story

October 26-27th, 2019

Remember, small groups are primarily for growing closer relationships with other believers. We can learn wonderful things in this environment but keep relationships first.

- **HIStory and Your Story**
- This series we go through the major events and people of the Bible. (We will miss a lot!!)
 - o Read your Bible for yourself. If you believe it and do it, your life will change for the better.
- **Today: The Followers of Jesus**
 - o In this series we have come to present day! It is the “Church Age.” We get to talk about us!
 - o Noah built a boat. Something else is being built now!! **Matthew 16:15-18.**
 - The rock, personified by Peter, is the revelation and belief that Jesus is the Christ.
 - The church, (congregation) is a conquering unstoppable force of people called out!!
 - Also called: Body of Christ, Temple, God’s Field/Building, spiritual house.
 - How it looked at the start: **Acts 2:38-47.** How does that sound??
 - o The Church is a revolution, a movement made up of people following Jesus together!
 - As the church grew, its reality and potential are described in **Ephesians 4:11-13.**
 - Large interconnected organization with various types of leaders training people to make a difference in this world! To fulfill **Luke 4:16-21.**
 - Receive the good news, freedom, sight, favor and then give that to others!
 - o You are part of this revolution if you are a follower of Jesus! How great is that!!
 - What do we do?? Be all sour and hate everything? NO!! Love God and love people!!
 - Reach Up, Rise Up, Reach Out is how we say it. This is what followers of Jesus do!
- Elephant in the room: Christians are decidedly terrible at actually following Jesus.
 - o Ex: Gandhi, You Found Me, and your personal experience. Consequence of accepting everyone?
- Can’t solve that whole problem today, but let’s look at two lessons from 1 Corinthians.
 - o Before that, Rise Up!! Make the commitment to be getting better at following Christ!
 - o 1) Division is BAD!!
 - The modern Pharisee. When your brand is more important than the Kingdom of God.
 - Don’t follow people, follow God. **1 Cor 3:1-7.**
 - God takes division in the church very seriously. **1 Cor 3:16-17.**
 - o 2) Unity includes great diversity!! Like a football team! **1 Cor 12:12-13**
 - You, if you are a Christian, belong even if you think you don’t. **1 Cor 12:14-16**
 - People you don’t like, understand, or value may be essential to the cause. **1 Cor 12:21-22**
 - In fact, like a physical body, we are interdependent. **1 Cor 12:26**
- How does the church get better at being the church? By each of us getting better and standing together.
 - o Put your faith in God and His plan!! Then the gates of hell will not prevail!!
- Let’s be part of the revolution by belonging, even if we don’t feel it, and by including.
 - o Closing verse, again, is **1 Cor 12:27.**
- Pray for each other before you finish up!