

Sunday Sermon Review: Week of January 17th, 2021

Sermon Series: Jesus in the 20's

Sermon: We Promote Jesus

Speaker: Pastor Mike Burnette

Icebreaker

- What song describes your life right now?

I. Serving God is Costly

Have your group read **Acts 20:18-19**

- What price have you paid, in order to serve God? What cost(s) are you refusing to pay, in order to continue serving Him?
- What things are you afraid of losing for the sake of following Christ? Are you willing to lose those things in order to follow Him?

II. We Are "Bound" to Purpose

Read the following passage: **Acts 20:20-24**

- Have you refrained from sharing the truth with someone because you were afraid of offending them? If so, why were you afraid?
- Is your life too precious to give to God? Do the eternal lives of others matter less to you, than your own life?
- Pastor Mike stated that repentance means "turning toward God". Describe what things you turned away from, in order to turn toward God.

III. We Promote Jesus, No Matter What

Read the following passage: **Acts 20:25-27**

- Are you willing to be a martyr for God? Why or why not?
- Have you been waiting for a different season to share Christ? Who can you reach from where you are right now? What would it look like for you to start promoting Jesus today?
- What other things are you promoting, instead of Jesus? How can you change what you give priority to, and start sharing the good news of Jesus?

Act On It

Encourage: In these divisive times, where people are forcing you to pick a side, we must remember that our main purpose is to promote Jesus! The cost to follow Jesus is high, but whatever you lose, is NOTHING compared to what you gain! Instead of trying to make some monumental changes in your life, start TODAY, and reach out to one person, by sharing the good news.

Ask: Ask God to reveal areas of your life that take priority over Him; surrender those areas to Him, and receive His purpose and call to promote Jesus. Ask God to reveal the people in your life that need to hear the gospel.

Challenge: Make a list of 5 people in your life, who don't know Jesus. Connect with just **one** person, and send them a note of encouragement, a podcast recommendation, or ask them how you can pray for them. Sign up

for a project, during Serve Day this Friday, January 23rd. Your Small Group can all participate, and share God's love with our community!

Prayer Request and Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank you for giving up everything by sending your Son Jesus, who gave Himself for us. Because you paid such a high price for us, we graciously give up everything to follow you. Help us to walk in boldness, and share the truth of the gospel with those who desperately need to hear it. Reveal to us the things that take priority over you in our lives. Help us to focus on the mission, and serve others, and promote Jesus in everything we do. In Jesus' name we pray, amen!

Sunday Sermon Review: Week of January 10th, 2021

Sermon Series: Jesus in the 20's

Sermon: Receive All of Jesus

Speaker: Pastor Mike Burnette

Icebreaker

- What New Year's resolutions have you made? How well have you kept them?

I. Receive the Peace of Jesus

Have your group read **John 20:19-21** and **John 14:27**

- What's the difference between the peace the world gives, and the peace that Jesus gives?
- Do you truly believe that you can receive peace from Jesus? Why or why not?

"Peace is not the absence of fear; it's the presence of Jesus!!"

--Pastor Mike Burnette

- Our level of anxiety is closely tied to our closeness to Jesus. Based on your anxiety level, how close do you think you are to Jesus?

II. Receive the Spirit of God

Read the following passage: **John 20:21-22**

"You are not saved unless the Holy Spirit dwells in you."

--Pastor Mike Burnette

- Prior to this sermon, what was your view of the Holy Spirit (i.e., feared Him, thought He was weird)?

- How do you see the Holy Spirit at work in your life ? Share a time that you've felt conviction from the Holy Spirit?
- What areas of your life do you need to surrender to the Holy Spirit's guidance?

III. Receive the Mission of Jesus

Read the following passage: **John 20:21-23**

- Who are the people in your life, that you believe God has sent you to share the good news?
- What's keeping you from fully accepting your assignment from God?
- Why are you trying to do life alone? What do you think will happen if you give God the battles you're trying to fight on your own?

Act On It

Encourage: The same peace Jesus has, He leaves with us!! If you're struggling with finding peace in your life, grow closer to Jesus. He is the Prince of Peace, and will never fail to give it to you. If you're a Christian, then you have the promise of the Holy Spirit available to you, and ready for you, and accessible to you! Many of us have loved the Father, we have received the Son, but we haven't known what to do with the HOLY SPIRIT! It's not JESUS living in your heart, it's the HOLY SPIRIT dwelling on the

inside of you! Jesus is physically at the right hand of the Father. The HOLY SPIRIT is on the INSIDE OF US!

Ask: Ask the Holy Spirit to come live inside your heart. If you're struggling with forgiving anyone, ask God to help you release that burden, so you can walk in freedom. As you participate in God's mission to advance His kingdom, ask Him to send you to the people who need to hear the good news of the gospel.

Challenge: Think about what's making you fearful and anxious, and as a group pray for the Holy Spirit to bring peace to those areas. Forgive the people who've hurt you, and release that burden to God. Write down the names of 5 people in your life who don't know Jesus; ask God for the opportunity to share your testimony of salvation with them.

Prayer Request and Prayer

Heavenly Father, you are on the throne, despite all the chaos that's happening in our world today. We know that our peace comes from you, Jesus, and not the world. Fill us, Holy Spirit, so we can experience real life in you. Help us to forgive those who've hurt us, so we can walk in freedom. Father, we join in your mission to lead others to Christ. Keep our eyes focused on you, in Jesus name, amen!

Sunday Sermon Review: Week of January 3rd, 2021

Sermon Series: Jesus in the 20's

Sermon: Promises of Jesus

Speaker: Pastor Mike Burnette

Icebreaker

- If you could go back in time in any era, when would you go back, and why?

I. God Is For You in 2021

Have your group read **Psalm 20:1-5** and **Psalm 37:4**

- The name of the Lord will protect you; what's happened in your life that may challenge this promise of God?
- Are you asking God to speak, but not spending time to hear Him answer?
- Do you see God's favor in your life? In what areas?
- God wants us to delight in Him, over anything else in our lives. What things do you take delight in, over God?

Psalm 20 lists eight promises of God that we can believe in:

- Promise to ANSWER you – which also means HE HEARS YOU
- Promise to PROTECT you – which also means HE CARES for you!
- Promise to HELP you – which tells us that HE WATCHES you!
- Promise to SUPPORT you – which tells us that HEAVEN has your back
- Promise to REMEMBER all you do – which tells us HE PAYS Attention.
- Promise to FAVOR YOU – which is a great way to live this life!
- Promise to GIFT YOU with dreams – which tells us YOUR FUTURE matters
- Promise to FULFILL YOUR desires – which tells us He is FAITHFUL.

II. We Can Trust God in 2021

Read the following passage: **Psalms 20:6-9**

- Do you really have all your trust in God, what are you holding back from God, and why are you afraid of giving him trust in this area?
- What is the difference between putting your trust in something and putting value into something?
 - Do you find yourself putting trust in things we should value instead?

Act On It

Encourage: When God makes a promise, He keeps it! We can trust Him to do everything He says He will do. People will fail you, money will fail you, the government will fail you, but God will NEVER fail!! God is for you, not against you, no matter the circumstances you face.

Ask: Ask God, by His Holy Spirit, to remind you of His promises. Ask Him to reveal the areas of your life that you don't take delight in Him. Ask God to help you lay aside selfishness and pride, take action to delight in Him, and walk in obedience.

Challenge: I want to challenge you as we start this new year:

- Establish a NEW or INCREASED Commitment of Prayer and Bible Study
- Establish a NEW or INCREASED Commitment of Serving Others
–Dream Team, missions, etc.
- Establish a NEW or INCREASED Commitment to DOING LIFE with others in a SMALL GROUP

- Establish a NEW or INCREASED Commitment to Giving generously – Tithes and Offerings.

Prayer Request and Prayer

Heavenly Father, we thank you for not only being a promise maker, but a promise keeper. Take our eyes off of the frail, feeble things of this world. Shift our focus back on you, and your unfailing word. Renew our hearts, so that we delight in you, above anything else in this world. Help us to shine the light of Christ in a world desperate for hope. In Jesus name, we pray, amen!