

Sunday Sermon Review: Week of May 23th, 2021

Sermon Series: The Book of Acts

Sermon: Spiritual People share Jesus (despite their present and past failures)

Speaker: Pastor Beau Jensen

Icebreaker

- If you could live in any time period which would you choose and why?

Conversation Starters and Sermon Review

- Think of an embarrassing moment in your life, what made it embarrassing then? Does it still bother you now?
- What has made you feel unqualified in your life? Perhaps for a promotion, being a parent, or even feeling unqualified for what God is calling you to do?

I. Jesus Ends the agony of Death (Acts 2:22-24)

- The Jews had a hard time accepting that Jesus had not come like they believed he would, that he would take the form of a servant instead of a conqueror that would free them from the oppression of the Romans. Have you ever struggled to accept Jesus because He did not speak to you or come to you in the manner you thought he would?
- What makes living in agony more appealing than giving the pain over to God and talking to someone about what pains you are dealing with? Why is it so scary for us to verbalize this?
- How do you think the audience of Peter's message felt when they learned that they killed the Messiah, the Son of God? Do you understand the weight of our sins? How did it make you feel when you learned that your sins have been paid for by Christ and that

because he was resurrected we now have a pathway to forgiveness by God through Jesus?

- How does the promise of God free us from the fear of death? What does it look like to share this promise with others? What would you share from your own life or from scripture with people who don't know God?

II. Know how to Share God's Word. (Acts 2:25-28)

"When God's word is shared effectively, it removes guilt and shame, because Jesus took away our guilt and shame!!" —Pastor Beau Jensen

- How do you share the gospel in a way that is loving and not shameful?
- How can we be authentic, be real with people, and to make it a conversation instead of preaching a sermon to them?
- How can your relationships pave a way for you to share the gospel with those around you?
- Has someone ever tried to use shame to share God's promise with you? Was it effective?

III. Spiritual People Share Jesus because it's God's Promise for Everyone (Acts 2:29-33)

- How can we follow Peter's example to share the Gospel to someone in a clear way, one that is not filled with so much scripture that it becomes confusing, but is concise and gets the message across?
- What makes you think you need permission to move beyond what you've done in the past to share Jesus? What makes you think you can't move beyond that to be an effective communicator?
- If you are feeling unqualified to share, what is it that you feel you are lacking? Is it a lack of scriptural knowledge, confidence, or something else?

Act On It

Encourage: Your past does not disqualify you from sharing Jesus with others. The Holy Spirit is in you, the same one that raised Jesus from the dead, that gave Samson his strength, and the same one that performed countless miracles even today. This same Spirit will help you in your understanding, and will give you the words you need in the appointed time God has already planned for you to use them. What other qualification do you need beyond that which God has already given you? Read 1 Corinthians 2:10-16 that reminds us of the understanding the Spirit of God gives us.

Ask: God, remove any feelings of fear, shame, or guilt that we may hold onto from our past so that we may share the gospel. Lord, help us with self doubt, let us not compare our testimony with that of others and that our story is our own. Lord, let what we speak be a word from you, not leaning too much on our own understanding or knowledge of scripture but listening to the Spirit. Lord, we ask for the confidence to share when prompted when you have called us to, not when we are ready to.

Challenge: Share your testimony with your small group if you have not already, or one other person this week. Pray that their heart be in a season to receive God's word. Pray that the Holy Spirit be working in them through your story. Continue to remain in the word, to apply scripture on your heart so that we may all carry the word with us at all times.

Prayer Request and Prayer

Father, give us the courage, the opportunity, and wisdom to share the word you have given us, not those we believe we should say. Father, I pray that this week you challenge us, that you send someone to us this week we can tell about the life that can only be found in the name of your Son. Let us focus on relationships first, leading in love, and sharing the good news in a way to show your true nature, one of Love not shame. One that is welcoming to all, not for a select few. One that is free, not something that

we earn. Lord, thank you for making a way for us when we never could,
thank you for being our beloved Father, Amen.