

05.26.24
Sermon Notes
Jesus is the Story
John 4:3-45

Preaching Theme for 2024

- Normalize
 - Hearing God
 - **Speaking About Jesus**
 - Experiencing the Holy Spirit

Series Tag→ We Talk About What We Love

Pillars of our Series

1. We Speak Jesus Because God is The God who Speaks

- a. This comes from the foundation we laid in our Hearing God sermon series. The God of the Bible is a God who speaks & hears and He has made us to do the same. We are able to speak because God has made us to do so. We speak because we have this attribute that is rooted in His nature. He speaks and we do the same. He speaks and He empowers us to do the same.
- b. The question here is this→ What do you do with your words? How often do you use your words to tell people about Jesus? Be honest & realize if you do. Also realize whether or not you talk to non-Christians about Jesus.

2. Jesus Told People Who He Is

- a. Here I focused on the three major ways in which Jesus told us who he is.
- b. Jesus told us through **His Actions**→
 - i. Through His public healing ministry & through forgiving sins, Jesus did what only God could rightly do and the results of what He did speaks for itself.
- c. Jesus **Metaphorically** told us who He Is through **His Teachings**→
 - i. John pays special attention to this by including 7 I AM statements that Jesus taught. There is no confusion about who Jesus claimed to be.
 1. I am the Bread of Life: John 6:35
 2. I am the good Shepherd: John 10:11
 3. I am the resurrection and the life: John 11:17-57
 4. I am the Light of the World: John 8:12
 5. I am the door of the sheep: John 10
 6. I am the door: John 10:7
 7. I am the gate: John 10:9
- In a few instances Jesus also **Plainly** told people who He is.
 - John 8:58
 - 58 Jesus said to them, "**Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am.**" 59 So they picked up stones to

throw at him, but Jesus hid himself and went out of the temple.

- John 4:26
 - “I who speak to you am he.”

- Don’t ever let anyone challenge your faith on the grounds that Jesus didn’t communicate who He viewed Himself to be.

3. Jesus Charged All Who Followed Him To Speak

- a. We have three texts that are called our Commissioning passages. These are where Jesus gives the church instructions of what we are here to do. This is our kingdom assignment...

- i. Acts 1:6-8

- 1. 6 So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” 7 He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. 8 **But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.**”

- ii. John 20:19-21

- 1. 19 On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.” 20 When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. 21 Jesus said to them again, **“Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.” 22 And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit.**

- iii. Matthew 28:16-20

- 1. 16 Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. 17 And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. 18 And Jesus came and said to them, **“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”**

- b. Jesus has established the Church to spread His name and to make new believers. Every Christian is part of this mission and entrusted to carry it out through the filling of the Holy Spirit. We are Stewards of the Gospel.

4. Speaking & Doing Go Hand In Hand

- a. I’ll keep this one simple because it’s simple to understand. Speaking without Doing is meaningless & trustworthy. Doing without Speaking is Insufficient &

Vague. In order to speak about Jesus we need to be doing both. Very few of us are wired to feel comfortable doing both and so in this series we need to identify which one we struggle with so that we can mature in both. Speaking cannot replace demonstrating Jesus. Demonstrating Jesus cannot replace speaking. We need to be about both!

5. It's Always Right To Say Something About Jesus

- a. Like I said in the sermon, I will be sensitive on this pillar though I believe it to be 100% accurate. Over the course of the series I want us to think through questions like this...
 - i. How do I discern God's voice on when I should say something or not because might not get another chance?
 - ii. How do I hear God when He's telling me to say something?
 - iii. How do I build up courage to say something when I don't want to?
 - iv. How do I know when I should stay silent or when I need to say something?
 - v. Which scenario would I find myself in where saying nothing about Jesus is appropriate?
 1. These are honest questions that we need to ask ourselves.

6. If You Can't Explain it, You Don't Get It.

- a. Perhaps you don't tell people about Jesus because you plainly don't know enough about him. This is a major problem for a Christian because knowing Jesus' story should be the most primary thing in your life. Sharing Jesus is not about being a scholar but knowing Jesus and His story is an imperative in your life (and not just to be able to share about). We'll learn better and more organic ways of sharing our faith and being intentional about sharing what we say is the most important part of our lives.

Chuck Colson Quote on how Watergate proved the Gospel claims to him...

- "I know the resurrection is a fact, and Watergate proved it to me. How? Because 12 men testified they had seen Jesus raised from the dead, then they proclaimed that truth for 40 years, never once denying it. Every one was beaten, tortured, stoned and put in prison. They would not have endured that if it weren't true. Watergate embroiled 12 of the most powerful men in the world-and they couldn't keep a lie for three weeks. You're telling me 12 apostles could keep a lie for 40 years? Absolutely impossible."
 - If you want to learn more about his testimony here is a video that was produced about him. A Life Redeemed- [LINK](#)