



SSMC Camp 2019

Theme: Mk. 3:14b, 15

- Session 1: Step in I – Time with Jesus to re-orientate
- Session 2: Step in II – The dynamics of spiritual renewal
- Session 3: Step out – To engage and make a difference
- Session 4: Step forth I – To win the lost and disciple them
- Session 5: Step forth II – Staying strong and passionate for the long haul

Session 1: Step in I

Time With Jesus To Re-orientate (Mk. 3:13-15)

Why is it important to take time with Jesus?

To discover:

- Who am I? (Identity)
- Why am I here? (Purpose)
- Where am I going? (Destiny)
- Where do I belong? (Community)
- Is there worth/value in life? (Significance)

The result:

- We recognise life's mortality (Ps. 90:3)
- We acknowledge life's brevity (Ps. 90:10)
- We must live with a sense of urgency (Ps. 90:12; Eph. 5:15, 16)

The call of Jesus to re-orientate:

- To be with Him (Mk. 3:13, 14a; Acts 4:13)
 - To spend time with Him to keep focus and know His purpose (Mk. 1:35)
 - To learn and be equipped by Him
 - To be renewed and refreshed (cf. Lk. 5:16)
 - To imitate Him (1 Cor. 11:1, NKJV)
- To be sent out on His mission (Mk. 3:14, 15)
- To exercise authority and power (Mk. 3:15; 1 Jn. 4:4)

A rightly oriented life with Jesus involves (1 Tim. 4:15, 16):

- Diligence (v. 15a)
- Devotion (v. 15b; cf. Acts 13:36)
- Discipline (v. 16a; cf. Prov. 1:7)
- Determination (v. 16b; Jas. 1:2-4)

Session 2: Step in II

The Dynamics of Spiritual Renewal (Acts 3:19-21)

Introduction

The Person and place of the Holy Spirit is critical in spiritual renewal and passion

Why do we need spiritual renewal?

- Because we sometimes become dry/stale in our Christian walk
- Because we sometimes become presumptuous
- Because we sometimes become proud

Why do some Christians grow cold or not live effective lives?

- Have compromised in their Christian faith
- Lacking in discipline and perseverance
- Feeling that their prayers are not answered
- Been hurt/disappointed by other Christians
- Been distracted/pursuing false gods (Mt. 6:24)
- Not keyed into a small group (Heb. 10:25)

What is needed in spiritual renewal (Acts 3:17-21)?

- Recognise and repent of our sins and return to God (v. 19)
 - “Repent, then, and turn to God...”
- Experience forgiveness of our sins and be refreshed by the Holy Spirit (v. 19; cf. Eph. 5:18)
 - “....so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord.”

- Open up and receive all that had been lost (v. 21)
 - “... until the time comes for God to restore everything...”
- Respond in humble obedience and service (Heb. 10:24)
 - “And let us consider how we may spur one another on towards love and good deeds.”
- Hang around people of faith and passion (cf. Prov. 27:17)

How to stay fresh and motivated?

- Personal time with God daily in the Word, prayer and journalling (Mk. 1:35)
- Time away for reflection, renewal and re-charting where necessary (2 Tim. 2:7)
- Read widely but judiciously (cf. Lk. 2:46, 47)
- Attend seminars, conferences, etc. for continual input and enrichment
- Be in a circle of friends with kindred hearts and minds
- Have one or two people to speak into your life
- Be mentoring some people as well (2 Tim. 2:2)
- Exercise to keep fit and fresh (1 Cor. 6:19, 20)

Session 3: Step Out

To Engage and Make a Difference (Dan. 1:3-21)

Introduction

Never forget: That we are salt and light in this world (Mt. 5:13-16)

We must therefore be engaged with the world to make a difference

But engagements take place at different levels

Getting our engagement right at the foundational level:

- With God in prayer (Dan. 2:17-19; Dan. 10:12)
- With the Scripture so that one's life is centred on God with a moral compass (Dan. 9:1-3)
- With the community of God's people (Dan. 2:17)

Engagement in our role and responsibilities to make a difference:

- Clear sense of God's presence and call (Dan. 1:17, 21)
- Outstanding in fulfilling one's role and duties (Dan. 6:3, 4)
- Unafraid to take a stand for the Lord where necessary (Dan. 6:10)

Engagement with people and society around us:

- With the soul and culture of a nation (Dan. 1:4b)
- With the everyday needs and pleasures of the people (Dan. 1:5a)
- With the developments in society and the idols of the times (Dan. 1:2b; Dan. 5:4)

Three levels of social engagement:

- Service level
- Advocacy level (Prov. 31:8,9)
- Policy level

Session 4: Step Forth I

To Win the Lost & Disciple Them (Jn. 4:4-15)

Introduction

- Do not miss the joy and blessings of sharing Jesus with people around us.
- Do not miss the greater privilege of leading someone to faith in Christ and see that person being disciplined in the life of the church.

Flaws in the Church today:

- Turning the sharing of our faith or evangelism into a programme
- Turning the sharing of our faith or evangelism into an event
- Relegating the sharing of our faith or evangelism to a few so-called experts, the evangelists

Evangelism in Scripture is to be seen as a lifestyle and the responsibility of every follower of Jesus (cf. Acts 8:4)

What is evangelism?

- It is sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit and trusting God for the results

Why we must evangelise?

- It is sharing in the heart of God (Jn. 3:16, 17)
- Otherwise people are lost to a Christless eternity (Col. 1:13, 14)

There are 2 forms of evangelism:

- Visual evangelism
- Verbal evangelism

Evangelism Jesus' style:

- The posture of the heart (v. 4)
- The place of engagement (v. 5, 6)
- The point of conversation (v. 7)
- The prejudice of the woman (v. 9)
- The promise of the Saviour (v. 10, 13-14)
- The plea of the woman (v. 15)

The result:

- She became the first evangelist to her town (v. 29, 39)
- Many more became believers and Jesus stayed for 2 days to disciple them (v. 40, 41)
- The whole town was impacted (v. 42)

The challenge:

- That by the grace of God and in the power of the Holy Spirit I would like to lead ___ person(s) to faith in Christ and see the person(s) being disciplined in the life of the church.
Make this an annual goal.

Session 5: Step Forth II

Staying Strong & Passionate for the Long Haul (2 Tim. 4:6-8)

3 critical issues about life:

- **Life is a fight (v. 7)**
 - “I have fought the good fight...” (v. 7)
 - Make sure that you are involved in a good fight and not a bad one
 - Make sure that you are involved in a right fight and not a wrong one
 - What are we truly fighting against?
 - The flesh
 - The world
 - The devil
- **Life is about finishing (v. 7)**
 - “I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race...” (v. 7)
 - Life is a race and we must make sure that we finish this race of life well
 - What must we guard to finish this race of life well?
 - Power (2 Sam. 11:14, 15)
 - Position (1 Kings 12:5-7)
 - Pride (2 Chron. 26:16)
 - Purse (1 Pet. 5:2; 2 Kings 12:15)
 - Passion (Judg. 14:1, 2; Judg. 16:1, 4)
 - Practices, especially later in life (1 Kings 11:3, 4)
- **Life is about faith and keeping faith (v. 7)**
 - How can we keep faith strong and passion high for the long haul?
 - Worship to centre us (Ps. 27:4)
 - Word to feed and guide us (Lk. 10:41, 42)
 - Witness to fire and inspire us (Jn. 9:25)