

Easter 25
I Want To Be Like Jesus

[Mar 16:1-8 ESV] 1 When the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. 2 And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. 3 And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance of the tomb?" 4 And looking up, they saw that the stone had been rolled back--it was very large. 5 And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe, and they were alarmed. 6 And he said to them, "Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen; he is not here. See the place where they laid him. 7 But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you." 8 And they went out and fled from the tomb, for trembling and astonishment had seized them, and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

[Luk 9:21-26 ESV] 21 And he strictly charged and commanded them to tell this to no one, 22 saying, "The Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised." 23 And he said to all, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. 24 For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it. 25 For what does it profit a man if he gains the whole world and loses or forfeits himself? 26 For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words, of him will the Son of Man be ashamed when he comes in his glory and the glory of the Father and of the holy angels.

I. Intro

- A. Resurrection Sunday is upon us!
- B. After much teaching regarding the death and sacrifice of Jesus, we now celebrate NEW LIFE!
- C. He died for our sins, as only He could have, but that's not the end of the story!
- D. He was resurrected to new life and gives us new life with it, by faith.
- E. He is just as alive today as He has ever been, and He will come again!
- F. The Story is not over, we are still a part of it.
- G. We are changed by the truth, and we are empowered by it.
- H. We are changed to be like Christ, and that change causes us to want to BE LIKE JESUS
- I. Illustration:
 - 1. Is it cake?
 - 2. This is where an object and an object that looks like the object, but is cake is compared.
 - 3. One is real, one looks real.
 - 4. Some are so close that it's impossible to tell
 - 5. Others are a little more obvious
- J. The same goes with the Christian life
 - 1. We are not Him, but we are to look like Him
 - 2. We may not be an exact representation, but our desire is to be as close as possible.

II. Text

- A. Mark 16:1-8
 - 1. They were thinking of the obstacles they would face, but the obstacles had been removed.
 - 2. They had a plan, and God had a different plan.
 - 3. They were reminded that Jesus did what He said He would do.
 - 4. He was ALIVE!
- B. Luke 9:21-26
 - 1. Jesus prepared the disciples for something that they could never be prepared for.

2. He tells them what is to come.
3. He tells them the spiritual truth that is for all humanity:
 - a) If you choose to come after Christ,
 - (1) you need to deny yourself
 - (2) Take up the cross daily
 - (3) Follow HIM
 - b) Whoever:
 - (1) Saves his own life will lose it
 - (2) Whoever loses his life for the sake of Christ will find it
 - (3) Gain the whole world, forfeit you soul
 - c) Do not be ashamed of the gospel!

III. Point

A. Be Like Jesus in HUMILITY

1. [Phl 2:5 ESV] 5 Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus,
2. James has been teaching this as well, Humility is a central truth in FAITH
3. You may need a moment to get your mind around this:
 - a) You have nothing to offer but brokenness
 - b) You have nothing good to bring to the table other than what Christ has given you.
 - c) You are of no real use to the cause of Christ in your pride and arrogance
 - d) You need to be made new!
4. Made New:
 - a) I need my mind made new
 - b) I need my will made new
 - c) I need my life made new
 - d) I need my brokenness made new.
5. And when you are made new, you realize there is nothing to offer but Christ in you
6. This allows humility to have a positive effect
7. How do we get this wrong:
 - a) When we are proud of how humble we are
 - b) When we miss the point and only experience the brokenness
 - c) When we never allow the power of Christ to overwhelm our nothingness, and make us something!

B. Be Like Jesus in DEATH

1. [Phl 3:7-11 ESV] 7 But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. 8 Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ 9 and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith-- 10 that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, 11 that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.
2. You can't know the power of the resurrection until you become like Jesus in His death.
3. Die to self, life for Christ
4. Become the living sacrifice you are intended to be.
5. The Luke 9 passage speaks clearly to what it means to be like Jesus:
 - a) We must die to self
 - b) We must not look at the world from what we want out of it, but what we can do in our service to our Lord.
 - c) We must think of others and their need for Christ
 - d) We must not make everything about us
 - e) We must serve the body of Christ completely, as we are gifted

C. Be Like Jesus in LIFE

1. [Eph 5:1-2 ESV] 1 Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. 2 And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.
2. [Rom 8:29 ESV] 29 For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.
3. My life is HIS, this changes everything
4. Our mind should be:
 - a) I make decisions based on His will, and not my own
 - b) I am empowered for good works and they are effective.
5. Christ is our example, lets model His life
6. We must imitate Christ, we are compelled to do so.
 - a) [2Co 5:14-15 ESV] 14 For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died; 15 and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised.
 - b) This idea moves us from selfish pretenders, to Christlike followers
 - c) This is not found in your own strength.

IV. Close

- A. Do you want to be like Jesus?
- B. Men are called to be like Jesus to their families.
- C. Believers are called to be like Jesus to the world.
- D. Disciples are called to be like Jesus in our actions.
- E. To live is Christ, to die is gain.