

The Lesson Everyone Missed

Did you catch it? ...(They didn't)

Mark 6:45-52, John 6:14-15, Exodus

Moses

Comes from royalty

Meets the great "I AM"

Sent to deliver his people

Meets with God on Mtn.

Given God's words

Prays for bread

Walks through water

God passes by him

Earthly promised land

Hearts were hardened

Jesus

Claims to be royalty

Says "I AM"

Sent to deliver his people

Meets with God on Mtn.

Speaks God's words

Creates bread

Walks on water

Jesus passes by them

Eternal promised land

Hearts were hardened

The lesson of the loaves:

Mark 6:49-52, Joshua 5:13-15

A hardened heart belongs to any follower that thinks it's all about **me**. Jesus is in **my** boat to bless **me**, to answer **my** prayers and to guide **me**.

An open heart says my life is **his**. My life, day, job, family and relationships are to honor **Christ**; it is **his** show, not mine.

He walks on water, I don't.

Life Group Study Questions

For the week of May 19, 2019

QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

MY STORY

- 1 At this point in the book of Mark, what was your first response to Chris's statement about the kind of example the disciples are to us? Were there any changes to what you thought about this as he continued on in the message?
- 2 The disciples thought they were just fine in how they were following Jesus, but they really weren't. Can you think of any situations in your life that were similar? Or the opposite – where you thought you weren't good with Jesus, but actually were? If so, explain.

DIGGING DEEPER

- 1 This weekend we heard how the disciples thought all was well by being in the boat with Jesus, but ironically they were still missing what it meant to honor Jesus and follow him. As you read Paul's words to us in Philippians 3:4-17 on how to honor Jesus and make him your purpose, indicate what he says will help and/or cause a problem.
 - Circle / **highlight** any words or phrases that catch your attention.
 - Underline the verse(s) you see as most important for you to remember.

Philippians 3:4-17

If someone else thinks they have reasons to put confidence in the flesh, I have more: ⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; in regard to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as for zeal, persecuting the church; as for righteousness based on the law, faultless.

⁷ But whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸ What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith. ¹⁰ I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead.

¹² Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. ¹³ Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

¹⁵ All of us, then, who are mature should take such a view of things. And if on some point you think differently, that too God will make clear to you. ¹⁶ Only let us live up to what we have already attained.

¹⁷ Join together in following my example, brothers and sisters, and just as you have us as a model, keep your eyes on those who live as we do.

As you can see, Paul was not only dealing with his past but with all he had accomplished. Similarly, our past accomplishments or failures can be what keep us thinking we need to be in charge or that we don't deserve to have him in our lives. Which one would you say you deal with more? Explain.

2 As a follower of Jesus, none of us want to become unaware of developing a “hardened heart” or blind to not keeping Jesus in the “driver seat.” Unfortunately, most of us have seen others and/or experienced ourselves slipping away from what’s most important when it comes to following him. How could the following verses help keep Jesus as the priority of your life?

Romans 3:23 *New International Version (NIV)*
²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

James 5:16 *New International Version (NIV)*
¹⁶ Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

Psalms 139:23-24 *New International Version (NIV)*
²³ Search me, God, and know my heart;
test me and know my anxious thoughts.
²⁴ See if there is any offensive way in me,
and lead me in the way everlasting.

Proverbs 27:5-6 *New International Version (NIV)*
⁵ Better is open rebuke
than hidden love.
⁶ Wounds from a friend can be trusted,
but an enemy multiplies kisses.

Proverbs 12:15 *New International Version (NIV)*
¹⁵ The way of fools seems right to them,
but the wise listen to advice.

2 Timothy 2:4-5 *New International Version (NIV)*
⁴ No one serving as a soldier gets entangled in civilian affairs, but rather tries to please his commanding officer. ⁵ Similarly, anyone who competes as an athlete does not receive the victor’s crown except by competing according to the rules.

Which of the verses above do you think you do best? Which one do you need to work on?

TAKING IT HOME

Looking back on this week’s sermon and study, what’s most important for you to remember?

PRAYER REQUESTS

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