Stewardship of the Gospel

Greg Kline · 2 Kings 5:1–14

INTRODUCTION

- He was a mighty man of valor, but he was a leper.
- Long story short, the gospel is centered around the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus.
- The question this morning is what is my role as a steward of the gospel?

1 It Might Be That We Don't Truly Believe

Mark 16:9–16

- He rebuked them for their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they had not believed those who saw him after he had risen.
- We've cheapened it so much in our world today that we make belief just some sort of acknowledgement that Jesus exists.
- Maybe I don't evangelize. Maybe I don't teach or invite enough. Because I don't fully believe that God will send people who obey him to heaven and people who ignore him to hell.
- Unless we fully embrace that fact, why would we dare talk to others about it?

2 We Don't Truly Care Enough

Matthew 25:31–46

- Caring enough about something says, I am willing to do this at a cost to me.
- That would mean that we value a physical or even blood relationship more than we value the gospel message.
- If eternal life is real and offered by God, eternal punishment is also real.
- Do I care enough to pay any cost in my life or in my relationships?

3 We Fear Rejection and Failure

1 Peter 3:15

- The truth of the matter is we fear rejection and failure.
- The question isn't, do we know we should be ready or that we should get ready? But will we actually be ready?
- We need to not fear rejection and failure. We need to fear being separated from God for eternity.

4 God Does the Healing, Not Me

2 Kings 5:8–12

- God has prominent but also reasonable expectations for his servants.
- Go and wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored, and you shall be clean.
- We need to first and foremost recognize God does the healing, not me.

- Naaman didn't reject Elisha. He rejected God's healing plan.

5 The Little Girl, the Messenger, and the Persuader

2 Kings 5:2–3; Exodus 3; 2 Kings 5:13–14

- This little girl didn't teach. She pointed. Can I point to Jesus?
- There's a big difference in creating the message and sharing the message.
- God can use you. Not because you're great or because I'm great, but because God is great and his message is good news.
- We all have a part to play, whether it's the teacher, the messenger, the initiator, or even the persuader.

6 To Fulfill My Role

Colossians 4:5–6; Matthew 10; 1 John 2:1–2

- We need to remember God is the one doing the healing.
- I can pray. And then I can pray again.
- If I don't pray for something, I either don't believe in the power of prayer and the power of God behind it, or I don't care about that which I refuse to pray about.
- When we teach, we teach with love, empathy, and gentleness because that's what we want from God.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **Am I playing my part? Am I serving my role? I can pray today. I can initiate today. Can I be a messenger and a persuader? Yes. If I trust God to work in me and through me.**

MY NOTES