### **Prepare The Way**

He Gets Us: Part 1 February 26, 2023, | Bryan Lloyd

# A prepared heart is a where we need to start.

*"I will send my messenger ahead of you who will <u>prepare</u> your waya voice of one calling in the wilderness, <u>prepare</u> the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him." Mark 1:2-3 NIV* 

## 5 Ways God Uses Spiritual Preparation.

#### 1. Preparation leads to <u>reconciliation</u>.

For if, while we were God's enemies, we were <u>reconciled</u> to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been <u>reconciled</u>, shall we be saved through his life! Romans 5:10 NIV

<u>Repent, then, and turn to God</u>, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord...Acts 3:19 NIV

Action Steps: Commit your life to Jesus. Is there a sin to confess?

#### 2. Preparation gives clarification.

But <u>seek first his kingdom</u> and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Matthew 6:33 NIV

"<u>Ask</u> and it will be given to you; <u>seek</u> and you will find; <u>knock</u> and the door will be opened to you. For <u>everyone</u> who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened. Matthew 7:7-8 NIV

Action Step: "Lord, what do you want to do in me over the next six weeks?"

#### 3. Preparation helps bring transformation.

Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be <u>transformed</u> by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will. Romans 12:2 NIV

All of us, then, reflect the glory of the Lord with uncovered faces; and that same glory, coming from the Lord, who is the Spirit, <u>transforms</u> us into his likeness in an ever greater degree of glory. 2 Corinthians 3:18 GNT

#### Action Step: Mark Reading Plan

#### 4. Preparation shows us we need <u>collaboration</u>.

<u>Two people are better off than one</u>, for they can help each other succeed. If one person falls, the other can reach out and help. But someone who falls alone is in real trouble. Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 NLT

And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, <u>not giving</u> <u>up meeting together</u>, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching. Hebrews 10:24-25 NIV

#### Action Steps: Catch every message Get in a Group

#### 5. Preparation helps me with <u>invitation</u>.

"Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people." Matthew 4:19 NIV

Therefore <u>go and make disciples</u> of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." Matthew 28:18-20 NIV

Action Step: Start thinking about who you can invite to Easter Services.