

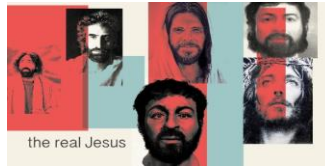
March 8, 2020

Prayer Life

- Tina Tenharmstel, please pray for healing and peace due to a recent medical condition.
- Mike Tenharmstel, please pray for peace and healing for recent health issues.

Church Life

- If you are a guest with us today, we want to **WELCOME** you! If you haven't done so already, we invite you to stop by our Guest Reception Center in the lobby following the service. Someone will greet you, answer any questions you may have, and give you a gift as a thank-you for worshipping with us today! It is located right by the "Patio," look for the round rack on the outside wall.
- **Eric Lamer** is the missionary of the month. Eric works with Zeeland public middle school students to reach them with the life-changing message of Jesus Christ and then disciple them through weekly Bible studies. Please grab a prayer card to take home and pray over. These cards are in the seatback pocket in front of you. Also, new missionary postcards are available in the seatback pocket for you to write a note of appreciation and encouragement to Eric! Please take one out, write a note on the backside and place the card in the blue Mission Mailbox located in the lobby.
- **Bible Reading Plan** - This year, we are encouraging our entire church to read through the Bible in one year. One of our AMAZING business leaders came up with an idea to make this more enticing. Every weekend, we will be giving away a \$50 gift card to a person who read the readings for the prior week. So here's how this works, please visit the scooter table **BEFORE** service, write your name on a ticket (if you did the readings for the week), and drop it in the bin. Then, at the end of the service, Pastor Adam will pull out a name, and someone will go home with a gift card(both services). We want to encourage our church to be in their Bibles, happy reading!
- **Looking for a FUN way to serve?** Our local mission team is wanting some friendly people to join the Auction and/or Zeeland Community Events teams! Please fill out your connection card or email merylheise@gmail.com OR nancy@gracechapelzeeland.com for more information!
- Please check the **coat racks** in the lower level before March! Any remaining items will be donated. Thanks!
- **Grace Kids** is looking for a few volunteers to serve in the toddler class, first or second service, **and** the lower elementary class during the second service. Please contact Katy McCaul or fill out a connection card to get involved.
- **Easter Egg Hunt & Carnival** will be held March 28th at 10 am, please invite all your friends and family! Volunteers are needed; please sign up downstairs at the check-in desk.



The Real Jesus: Bucking Authority

Matthew 21: 23-46 The Authority of Jesus Questioned, ²³ Jesus entered the temple courts, and, while he was teaching, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him. “By what authority are you doing these things?” they asked. “And who gave you this authority?” ²⁴ Jesus replied, “I will also ask you one question. If you answer me, I will tell you by what authority I am doing these things. ²⁵ John’s baptism—where did it come from? Was it from heaven, or of human origin?” They discussed it among themselves and said, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will ask, ‘Then why didn’t you believe him?’ ²⁶ But if we say, ‘Of human origin’—we are afraid of the people, for they all hold that John was a prophet.” ²⁷ So they answered Jesus, “We don’t know.” Then he said, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. **The Parable of the Two Sons,** ²⁸ “What do you think? There was a man who had two sons. He went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work today in the vineyard.’ ²⁹ “I will not,’ he answered, but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰ “Then the father went to the other son and said the same thing. He answered, ‘I will, sir,’ but he did not go. ³¹ “Which of the two did what his father wanted?” “The first,” they answered. Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³² For John came to you to show you the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes did. And even after you saw this, you did not repent and believe him.

_____ is what matters. _____ are meaningless.

The Parable of the Tenants, ³³ “Listen to another parable: There was a landowner who planted a vineyard. He put a wall around it, dug a winepress in it and built a watchtower. Then he rented the vineyard to some farmers and moved to another place. ³⁴ When the harvest time approached, he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his fruit. ³⁵ “The tenants seized his servants; they beat one, killed another, and stoned a third. ³⁶ Then he sent other servants to them, more than the first time, and the tenants treated them the same way. ³⁷ Last of all, he sent his son to them. ‘They will respect my son,’ he said. ³⁸ “But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, ‘This is the heir. Come, let’s kill him and take his inheritance.’ ³⁹ So they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. ⁴⁰ “Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” ⁴¹ “He will bring those wretches to a wretched end,” they replied, “and he will rent the vineyard to other tenants, who will give him his share of the crop at harvest time.” ⁴² Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the Scriptures: ‘The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; the Lord has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes’? ⁴³ “Therefore I tell you that the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit. ⁴⁴ Anyone who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; anyone on whom it falls will be crushed.”

_____ bound people produce _____ on earth.

⁴⁵ When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard Jesus’ parables, they knew he was talking about them. ⁴⁶ They looked for a way to arrest him, but they were afraid of the crowd because the people held that he was a prophet.

Matthew: 22:1-14 (can’t fit you’ll need to look in your Bible 😊)

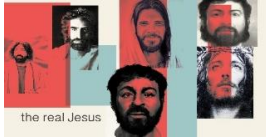
Life Application

If performance matters and promises are meaningless. If you look at your Christian life, what can you point to that shows you are performing well for God? Are you giving God the best of your time? The best of your talent?

The best of your treasure? Or do you promise you will one day when _____ (fill in the blank) changes?

If heaven-bound people produce heavenly fruit on earth. What fruit can you point to?

If Jesus says many are invited and few make it, are you sure you’re making it to heaven? If not, I would love to help you be sure; let’s talk. Email me at adam@gracechapelzeeland.com.



March 8th 2020, Bucking Authority

READ: Matthew 21:23-27

1. Discuss this passage and the world today. Do you see any parallels?

READ: Matthew 21:28-32

1. Pastor Adam said that he did not think most people would like it if he talked to us like this. How would you feel?
2. Consider the typical American Christian. People that know a lot about God, know right and wrong or what they should and should not do. How would we react?
3. Pastor Adam said: Jesus is clear on the **FACT** that you do not get to cherry pick how you follow Him. You do **NOT** get to decide what parts of the Bible you like and live those out. You do **NOT** get to remove parts of the Bible that do **NOT** align with your preferred way of life. Do you see this in our culture, this cherry picking? Do you see it you?
4. If Jesus is looking for **FULLY** devoted followers. What causes this disconnect between what He says in this passage and how we live?
5. Why is it that religious people seem to miss the message?
6. Jesus is very blunt and to the point in this passage. Can you imagine if someone said any of this to you? How would you respond?

KEY POINT: Performance is what matters. Promises are meaningless.

7. Most of us have a person in our life who “means well,” but is totally undependable, making promises which they will never keep. Most of us also know people who we can depend on to perform when needed. Honestly ask yourself which of those categories you lean towards. Ask those who are dependable this: How did you get there? Because: **We should STRIVE to be people who do not need to promise. Why? Because the performance of our life, shows who we are.**

*A Quote from Pastor Adam... The same goes for our walk with Jesus. Jesus does not want to hear promises about how one day we will do this or that. Jesus does not want to hear promises how one day we will put him first. Jesus wants to see our **ACTIONS** align with our words!*

READ: Matthew 21:33-46

1. What do the tenants do?
2. Do we reject the message today? How?
3. In this we see that God finally sent Jesus, His son, because then we will see God in His life and actions, but what happens?
4. Did those listening realize that Jesus was talking about them? Do we realize when he is talking about us?
5. Do you think this message offended the religious leaders?
6. Jesus offended people quite often. Why do you think this is so frowned upon today? Would you offend someone, speaking truth that you know would offend them?
7. Is Truth worth more than being politically correct to you?
8. Read verse 43, If you do **NOT** produce fruit, if your life does not reflect what you think it does, What will happen to you?

KEY POINT: Heaven bound people produce heavenly fruit on earth.

READ: Matthew 22:1-14

1. God sends out a save the date, just like we do for weddings. What happened?
2. Verse 7 tells us how God feels about this. What does it say?

Life Application

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If heaven bound people produce heavenly fruit on earth. What fruit can you point to? If Jesus says many are invited and few make it, are you sure your making it to heaven?