

Sermon Series: The Messiah: God's Promise, God's Glory

Sermon Title: The Mission of the Christ

Date: 12/14/2025

Isaiah 53; Luke 4:16-21

Big Idea: To live an abundant life: Live a life of sacrifice.

Jesus came not only to save but also to model what abundant life truly looks like. In a world that defines abundance as comfort, achievement, or accumulation, Jesus flips the definition on its head. According to Him, abundance is found through sacrificial living. His own mission embodies this truth, and His life shows us three key ways sacrifice leads to abundance.

1. Jesus was living deliberately (Luke 4:16–21)

Jesus begins His public ministry with intentionality. Luke records that He entered the synagogue "as was his custom," received the scroll of Isaiah, and deliberately chose a specific passage to read. He was declaring the exact mission the Father had given Him—proclaiming good news, freedom, restoration, and the "year of the Lord's favor."

This moment shows that Jesus lived with clarity of purpose. He aligned His life with the Father's blueprint, walking in obedience even when that obedience would eventually lead to suffering. His deliberate choices set the tone for His entire ministry and reveal a foundational truth: abundance comes when we live on purpose, not by accident.

If we want to experience an abundant life, we need the same intentionality—anchoring our decisions, priorities, and sacrifices in God's desires rather than drifting through life aimlessly.

2. Jesus knew the painful plan (Isaiah 53:10)

Jesus knew the cost of obeying the Father. He knew He would be rejected, physically wounded, and offered as a guilt sacrifice. Yet He embraced this plan willingly because it was the path to our salvation.

Isaiah 53 also reveals the other side of His suffering: Jesus would see the "offspring"—those who would believe—and His days would be prolonged through resurrection. In other words, suffering was not the end but the means through which God's redemptive purpose would unfold.

Jesus' obedience through suffering qualifies Him as our Great High Priest (Hebrews 5:8–10). He understands pain, and His suffering accomplishes eternal salvation for those who trust Him.

This teaches us something critical: abundance is not the absence of pain. Sometimes God leads us through difficulty as part of His refining and redemptive work in our lives. Sacrifices we make for others may be painful, but they can become part of God's plan to bless and strengthen both them and us.

3. You are His abundant Life (Isaiah 53:12)

Isaiah concludes with a vision of victory: the Servant receives a "portion," a reward for His obedient sacrifice. In biblical language, a portion refers to an inheritance. According to Isaiah, Jesus' inheritance includes the people He saves.

When you place your faith in Christ, you receive eternal life and the ongoing intercession of Jesus, who "bore the sin of many and makes intercession for the transgressors." But this passage also reveals something remarkable—believers are part of Jesus' reward. You are His portion, His inheritance, the fruit of His suffering.

This means His mission wasn't abstract; it was personal. You are included in the abundance His sacrifice produced. And now, as followers of Christ, we join Him by living sacrificially so that others may experience life in Him. Whether through giving, serving, discipling, or meeting needs in His name, our sacrifices multiply His harvest and deepen our experience of true abundance.

Jesus' mission shows us that abundant life is inseparable from sacrificial living. He lived deliberately, accepted the Father's painful plan, and secured a people who would become His inheritance. As we follow Him, we discover that sacrifice is not loss—it is the pathway to purpose, joy, and spiritual abundance.

Discussion Questions:

- 1. Why does Jesus' deliberate approach to His mission challenge the way we typically pursue abundance?
- 2. How does Isaiah 53 reshape your understanding of suffering in the Christian life?
- 3. What does it mean to you personally that you are part of Jesus' "portion" or inheritance?
- 4. Where might God be inviting you to practice sacrificial obedience this week?
- 5. How can your group encourage one another to pursue an abundant life through sacrificial service?