

Mark 14:32-72 –29 August 2021

“The Call To Intimacy With God”

Introduction

- *Jesus Christ has come into Jerusalem for the last week of His earthly ministry & life to die for our sins
- *Jesus has his face like a flint set on the cross for the joy that comes just beyond it
- *With the cross as the method, Jesus' goal is to usher us into eternal life in the Kingdom of Heaven
- *Read Rev 5 – Lamb Jesus comes to take back the title deed to the earth – this is the victory of the cross
- *But Jesus didn't do it to gain the earth (Read Matt 13:44)....He did it to gain YOU
- *It's not just about ushering us into a Kingdom, it's about ushering US into eternal relationship w/ HIM
- *Read Rev 21:1-3 – God and man together at last

We're called to intimacy with God. So today, 4 aspects of intimacy with God

1st Aspect of intimacy with God is that Jesus offers and role-models intimacy (Vs 32-42)

Read Vs 32-34

1. The 3 had the privilege to go further w/ Jesus
2. Jesus is always offering for us to go deeper
 - a. II Peter 3:18 – Grow in grace & knowledge
3. Read John 15:13-15
 - a. We begin as enemies of the State
 - b. We become entrants or servants of Kingdom
 - c. We can go deeper as Christ counts us as friends that know His business
 - d. And in reality, we're chosen Sons & daughters of the King
 - e. Question is: Will we accept His offer of coming into this intimacy?

Read Vs 35-36

1. In this, Jesus is defeating the flesh, which is contrary to the will of God, just as ours is

- a. He's able to defeat the flesh b/c of His intimacy with God His Father
- 2. Just as us, the man Jesus has 3 enemies (world, flesh and devil)
 - a. He defeated each of the 3 by His intimacy
 - i. Temptation – Intimacy w/ God's Word defeated Satan
 - ii. Passion week was His defeat of world – again using His knowledge & relationship of God and His Word to win the day

Read Vs 37-38

- 1. They didn't see the value in the privilege Jesus gave to them
- 2. Jesus is trying to get them to see that He's role-modeling what intimacy looks like
- 3. The solution to being tempted away to adultery & idolatry is to come into intimacy with Christ

Read Vs 39

- 1. Defeating the flesh was serious business

Read Vs 40-41

1. What would they have seen had they ‘watched’ as Jesus asked them to?
 - a. The Spiritual War
 - b. Had they fallen asleep at the Transfiguration, they would have missed it too!

Read Vs 42

1. The spiritual battle has now been won
2. See, Jesus didn’t need them on this journey w/ Him, He wanted them with Him

2nd Aspect of intimacy with God is that we often betray His offer of intimacy (Vs 43-52)

Read Vs 43-45

1. Judas Betrays Jesus w/ a kiss AND deceit
2. In Luke’s Gospel, it’s recorded that Jesus said, “Judas, betrayest thou the Son of Man w/ a kiss?”
 - a. This betrayal is so bad b/c Judas took advantage of his intimate position w/ Jesus

Read Vs 46

1. Jesus had said, whom seek ye & they fell back
2. It's a great reminder of the power of our God that is offering us intimacy

Read Vs 47

1. Peter cuts the ear off & Jesus heals the man
2. It's a great reminder of the love of our God that is offering us intimacy

Read Vs 48-49

1. Why privately w/ deceit instead of public before all people?
 - a. B/c leaders knew Jesus had people's sympathy

Read Vs 50-52

2. They all fled, but Mark fled naked
 - a. Adds evidence to authenticity of authorship
3. This is why idolatry is the same as adultery
 - a. It's a betrayal of the intimacy that God would have with us as our bridegroom

3rd Aspect of intimacy with God is that Jesus exalts His intimacy with the Father (Vs 53-65)

Read Vs 53-56

1. Looking for witnesses but none agreed...b/c they were liars
2. Crime or trial?
 - a. This wasn't a crime needing a trial
 - b. This was a trial needing a crime
3. When you reject intimacy w/ Christ, all that's left is to try ridding yourself of your guilt

Read Vs 57-59

1. Tried twisting His words of Himself being killed
 - a. Jesus was thinking of the confidence He has in His Father to raise He from the dead
 - b. All they could think of was the earthly

Read Vs 60-61a

1. He had no reason to answer contradictory liars
2. As prophesied Lamb to the slaughter (Isa 53)

Read Vs 61b-64

1. Jesus was commanded to speak, so He told the truth...that He is the Son of God
2. In face of this threat, Jesus had this confidence b/c of his intimate relationship w/ His Father

Read Vs 65

1. This is true meekness to allow this to happen
2. Unlike Peter in the Garden of Gethsemane, Jesus has His eyes on the prize
 - a. Jesus saw the value in allowing this
 - b. This abuse is worth it.... you're worth it!

4th Aspect of intimacy with God is that Jesus yearns for us to have intimacy (Vs 66-72)

Read Vs 66-68

1. His 1st denial – “I don’t know what you mean”
 - a. Jesus told Peter of this ahead of time, b/c He wants Peter to know that he can come back

Read Vs 69-71

1. 2nd denial, then 3rd denial – “I don’t know the man”
2. Read Luke 22:61
 - a. Jesus’ look was not of disgust, but of yearning for Peter to return.

Read Vs 72

1. Read Luke 22:62 - Peter wept bitterly about his denial
2. Romans 2:4 – It’s God’s goodness that leads to repentance.
3. Read II Cor 7:9-10 – It’s good that Peter has been made sorry, for it led to repentance and salvation!

Conclusion

Jesus has been arrested. The passion of the Passion week is just in front of Him in the form of a cross. Jesus has called you to intimacy w/ Himself

- 1. Intimacy has been offered & role-modeled**
 - a. Just as Jesus value time w/ His Father in the Garden, do we value time w/ God?
 - b. We, who used to be enemies of the State, have been offered to be Ambassadors of the Kingdom
- 2. Intimacy w/ Christ can be betrayed**
 - a. Judas betrayed w/ a kiss for 30 silver pieces
 - b. We have a great capacity to lie to ourselves about our true loyalties
- 3. Jesus exalted His intimacy w/ His Father**
 - a. The power of closeness w/ God, energized Jesus for the mission, & so too for us!
- 4. Jesus yearns for intimacy w/ you**
 - a. Jesus knows our short-comings & sins, yet He still longs for us to come close. What love!