

NOTES: Remain: Sacrifice
May 26 2024, Compelled Church, Pastor Rick Flood

TEXT: John 12:20-27 (NIV) John 2:14-16 (NIV)

Jesus is teaching a Kingdom Mindset:

Kingdom mindset: A transformed understanding of how to live that is in contrast to this world and its practices.

World View: A distorted view of life informing us how to live based on the perceptions of this world.

We are presented with a DICHOTOMY:

a division or contrast between two things represented as opposed or entirely different.

DICHOTOMY: DEATH OVER LIFE Here is my purpose: A Kernel of wheat has to die to fulfill its purpose.

Sacrifice: The surrender of something prized for the sake of something considered as having higher value.

Sacrifice is the foundation of our faith with a little distinction:

Man/Woman – one goes in hopes that others will not have to // Jesus – one goes in hopes that all would follow

DICHOTOMY: HATE OVER LOVE

Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life.

He is calling to the place where:

We would think so little of our own life (Desires, Will, Agenda) That we would be willing to sacrifice it for the sake of Christ

A.W. Tozer: Until we give up our own interests, there will never be enough stirring in our beings to find His highest will.

We have invested so much in the life that we have it's hard to give it up for the life we long for

V.26 Anyone who wants to serve me must follow me because my servants must be where I am

We view this as a sweet, loving promise of God's presence. This is an invitation to death, suffering, the cross.

DICHOTOMY: OBEDIENCE OVER DESIRE

V. 27 Now my soul is troubled, and what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour. Jesus models something of the greatest importance: Obedience over Desire

We are not in charge of our lives. We are in stewardship. As long as we presume ownership of our lives, we will struggle with obedience.

When we think we are owed, it is a payment – entitlement. When we know we don't deserve it, it is a gift – Humility.

Acceptance of Christ changes our position through Christ. Acceptance of Christ also calls for obedience to Christ.

We can become so enamored with our identity in Christ that we overlook our obedience to Christ. Our position does not supersede obedience; it calls for it.

Here is why obedience is so important: Simple obedience today saves us from self-inflicted pain tomorrow.

DICHOTOMY: DISCERNMENT OVER DELIVERANCE John 2:14-16

New Testament principle. Where is the temple? How do you suppose Jesus feels about the extra stuff in this temple?

What if the disruptions in your life were not from the devil but Jesus flipping some tables in the temple?

What if they were to get your attention on some areas of disobedience and sin

Here is what I want to challenge us with: **Pray for discernment over deliverance.**

We can spend our whole lives praying for God to save us from what he is actually trying to work us through.

Remain: Sacrifice | QUESTIONS

For continued study in groups, for families or for individual

Jesus presents what seems to be contrasting ideas that go against the world's conventional thinking.

John 12:20-27

V.24 Death over life

Q. What do you think Jesus meant when he said, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit"?

Q. How does this verse relate to our own lives and experiences? Can you think of a time when you experienced growth or transformation through a process of "dying" to something?

Q. Jesus speaks of the necessity of dying to bring forth new life. How does this concept of sacrifice and renewal apply to our Christian journey?

V.25 -26 Hate over Love

Q. What does Jesus mean when he says, "Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life"?

Q. How does this verse challenge our understanding of self-preservation and worldly success?

Q. Can you think of examples from your own life where prioritizing worldly desires led to spiritual emptiness?

Q. How does understanding the concept of eternal life influence the way we make decisions and set priorities?

V.26

Q. What does it mean to "serve" Jesus according to this verse?

Q. What are some challenges you face in serving Jesus and following Him closely?

Q. Reflecting on your own life, how have you experienced the Father's honor as you've served Jesus?

V.27 Obedience over Desire

Q. What emotions do you think Jesus was experiencing when he said, "Now my soul is troubled"? How do you relate to those emotions in your own life?

Q. In this verse, Jesus asks, "Father, save me from this hour." What do you think he meant by this plea? How does it reflect the tension between his human nature and divine mission?

Q. How does Jesus' submission to the Father's will in this passage challenge or inspire your own understanding of obedience and surrender?

John 2:14-16 Discernment over Deliverance

Q. What is the significance of Jesus driving out the money changers and overturning their tables in the temple?

Q. What lessons can we learn from this passage about the importance of reverence and respect in our worship of God?

Q. Have you ever wanted to be delivered from something only to find it was a work God was doing in your life?

Q. Based on this teaching, what are three takeaways you can begin to put into practice this week?

Resources for further learning:

Awe of God: John Bevere