

Southside Baptist Church
Sunday Morning 7-7-24
Christianity 102 – Message 38 Part 1
Would you, by faith, be willing to give what you have?

1. Introduction:

a. Taking a look back:

- 1) It is important to meditate on what you are learning.
- 2) When they arrived in Gadara, they met “a man with an unclean spirit.”
 - a) There are many today who are held captive by their sin.
 - b) Be wise – satan can masquerade as an angel of light and his demons as ministers of righteousness.
- 3) These demons knew who Jesus was.
- 4) This man whom Jesus set free wanted to follow Him.

b. Taking a look ahead:

- 1) There are times in any kind of ministry when an obstacle or a problem will come up that you are not sure what to do.
- 2) What do you do when you don't know what to do?
- 3) When you are facing a mountain, I believe it is important to understand that God may move it, or He will enable you to climb it and cross it.
 - a) What is it that complicates this?
- 4) Let's look at a mountain that arises in John 6:1-14.

2. What is the mountain in front of them?

a. Here we GROW again. Verse 1-5

- 1) The day is drawing to a close and the people are hungry.
- 2) How many people are we talking about?
 - a) A large crowd the disciples had not planned on taking care of as it relates to food.
- 3) Application – Maybe this is what James had in mind in James 1:2-4.
 - a) What is the joy of being tempted, being tried?

3. What is the wisdom of the disciples?

a. Suggestion 1: Mark 6:35-36; Luke 9:11

- 1) “send them away” –
- 2) Does this solve the problem or simply get rid of it?

b. Suggestion 2:

- 1) Jesus asked, “Whence shall we but bread that these may eat?” John 6:5
 - a) Jesus asked this question to prove him, to test him.
- 2) Application:
 - a) Money is often seen by people as a solution to our problems.
 - b) I Timothy 6:10 –
- 3) What is it that makes the love of money so dangerous?
 - a) When money begins to control you, it can motivate you to –
 - b) Money, for some, is their master. Matthew 6:24 – Money is an idol.
- 4) Was money the answer to this problem?
 - a) Phillip did a quick calculation here – “two hundred pennyworth...”

c. Suggest 3:

- 1) Andrew finds a young boy with 5 barley loaves and two small fish.

- 2) His question, “what are they among so many?” John 6:9
- d. Jesus provides the answer:
 - 1) John 6:10-11 –
 - 2) A miracle indeed and one that could not be explained.
4. What do we learn from this?
 - a. A good reminder:
 - 1) Jesus gave to the disciples and they in turn to the people. Think about this –
 - 2) That’s God, isn’t it?
 - 3) We say that “little is much when God is in it” –
 - 4) Maybe this is one reason we face mountains in our life.
 - b. The applications continue:
 - 1) Application – “Godliness with contentment is great gain.” I Timothy 6:6
 - a) What is contentment?
 - b) Stewardship/Ownership –
 - 2) Application – When you face something you can’t handle, give to the Lord what you have and wait on Him to do the rest.
 - 3) This is what the world needs to see –
 - a) John 6:14 –
5. Today’s Take Away:
 - a. The theory of who God is and what God can do must make its way from just being a theory to be a fact you live out each day.
 - b. Does the love of money have a hold on your life?
 - c. Contentment – is this a word that describes you?