

Southside Baptist Church
Sunday Morning 4-14-24
Christianity 102 – Message 34 Part 2
“Jesus begins His public ministry.”

1. Introduction:

a. Taking a look back:

- 1) Is it possible that believers get tired of Christianity?
- 2) Could it be that John was focused on the eternal and not the temporal?
- 3) The message of the Gospel includes the exhortation to repent of your sins.
 - a) “repent” – to change one’s mind for the better.

b. Taking a look ahead:

- 1) When Jesus began to preach the Gospel, some responded, and some did not.
- 2) Jesus never stopped teaching and preaching the Gospel.
- 3) Jesus invites us to know Him, salvation. To walk with Him, fellowship. To follow Him, a disciple.

2. Jesus calls some men to be mentored by Him: Mark 1:16-20

a. What would it take?

- 1) What would it take, from a human perspective, to saturate the world with the truth of the Gospel?
 - a) To get the Gospel out it takes people, but what kind of people?

b. Jesus said, “Come ye after me,” Verse 17

- 1) Jesus sees Simon and Andrew.
 - a) “Come ye after me, and I will make you to become fisher of men.”

2) Do these guys even know the Lord?

- a) John 1:35-49
- b) Did they believe in Jesus prior to this invitation?

3) This invitation from Jesus was not for salvation but for discipleship.

- a) A disciple is someone who has attached themselves to another to learn to one day in turn become the one who teaches.

4) Two important questions:

- a) When confronted with the Gospel – will you repent and believe?
- b) As a believer – will you allow someone to disciple you?
- c) “I will make you to become” – becoming one who is able to fish for men.

5) In every training to become something there will be obstacles and challenges, work, memorizing and yet these are not obstacles but really steps toward maturity.

6) Application – Salvation and Discipleship.

- a) The gospel is available to all who will call upon the name of the Lord.
- b) Discipleship is for believers who are willing to pay the price for following Jesus.

c. Jesus speaks about this decision in Luke 14:25-35

- 1) Jesus’ words would actually cause some to leave.
- 2) Jesus draws a strong contrast between someone who is saved and one who is a disciple.
- 3) Verse 26 –
 - a) A much different perspective of loving Jesus.
- 4) Verse 27 – “bear his cross”; “disciple”
 - a) What does this mean – “bear his cross” –

- b) “bear” – to take up, to carry, to put upon oneself something to be carried, to bear what is burdensome.
 - c) “cross” – means that which is equivalent to the crucifixion that He underwent. Jesus knew that this phrase would be used so He used a word that would mean – those on behalf of God’s cause, do not hesitate cheerfully and manfully to bear persecutions, troubles, distresses – recalling the fate of Christ and the Spirit in which He encountered it.
 - d. Parable of insight: Verse 28-32
 - 1) Jesus encourages the believer to count the cost of following Him.
 - a) When you count this cost – remember it isn’t what it has cost you, or really what it will cost you, but what it cost Jesus for you to have what you have now.
 - e. It is important to count. Verse 33
 - 1) Coming to the point of, “I surrender all”.
 - f. From clay to salt. Verse 34-35
 - 1) A part of your new creation is being transformed from clay to salt.
 - 2) Salt is important –
3. Today’s Take Away:
- a. Do you know Him?
 - b. Are you walking in the Spirit as a believer?
 - c. Are you a disciple of Jesus?