

Spring Cleaning

Intro: Pjohn.....

I. **Last week we started a series entitled: Spring Cleaning**

- A. Right now as we know it, we are in the middle of Spring... its been perfect outside, raining some, not to hot or cold
- B. And at the Jackson House we have been doing some spring cleaning...
- C. And just like every once in a while we have to really clean out our house, every once in a while we really need to take a look at our life and clean out some areas
- D. How many people after the message, thought, "I need to do some spring cleaning?" ha
- E. **Last week: we kicked this thing off talking about Jesus going to the Temple during the Passover..... he did some Spring Cleaning**
- F. And the crux of the message was things We must Get rid of: things that don't fit, things that could cause harm, and things that clutter our mind

II. Today, we are going to stay with our Spring Cleaning Theme and talk about Things we need to **Give away and Things we need to Fix** (2 parts).....

- A. Ok, how many people have ever went through your closet or house and instead of throwing something away, you thought I need to give that away?? Someone else could use it (furniture/clothes/shoes, etc)

B. Sometimes my wife gives my stuff away that I still use!!

- C. Some stuff we throw away: trash, pointless things (we hit those last week)
 - D. But other things are better given away
- III. But while we are Spring Cleaning: not only do we throw some things away, not only do we give some things away..... But we also at times realize that some things are Broken and they need to be fixed, right?
- A. That broken piece of trim, that outside faucet, that lawnmower, that Bike....
 - B. **So that's the plan for Today: We are going to discuss things we need to Give (4) and things we need to Fix (2).....**
- IV. You know when you think about our world, if I could use 1 word to describe it: it would be Selfish
- A. Everyone of us in here if we are to be honest we can pretty selfish
 - B. I really think its part of the American Identity.....
 - C. WE naturally think about ourself first: my needs, wants, my pleasure, my dreams, my desire, things that make me happy 1st
 - D. And Commercials/adds/ Telephone Marketing.. feeds into this
 - E. "Now its not evil to want to be Happy"
 - F. But, lets think about this for a second: If America is a nation that struggles with addiction of self: putting ourself first, doing things that benefit us first, helping ourself first, trying our best to make ourselves more comfortable first.... If We are so concerned about making ourself Happy
 - G. **Then why does it seem like so many people are so un-happy or Sad?**

- A. I read some recent stats the other day that were interesting: The U.S. is 2nd in the world in reported depression (1st is Ukraine) , The U.S. is 1st in anxiety problems:
 - B. Isn't that interesting: That More so than any other time in America, we have so much, and we are trying so hard to be happy, to do things that makes us happy, putting ourself first, yet we are more unhappy, depressed, anxious than ever
- V. See, I firmly think that one of the biggest problem in our culture isn't that we don't have what we want or enough:
- A. But, I think we have bought into a consumer mindset that is all about getting more, and bigger, and pleasing ourselves
 - B. And the solution isn't just get more and more..... But I think maybe part of the Solution is Giving!!
 - C.
 - D. Maybe if we were more thankful for what we do have, and Maybe if we Gave more..... It would make us more fulfilled(message isn't about \$\$)
- VI. .Did you know there is a difference between being fulfilled and happy?
- A. Happiness is a temporary feeling (and I love the feeling of happiness)
 - B. I loved Hitting a Homerun in baseball....doesn't last

- C. See, Fulfillment comes from God and revolves around being content with who you are and grateful to God for what you have
- D. Many people are chasing happiness, but Fulfillment is what we should be looking for
- E. **Fulfillment only comes from God and being someone who Gives aligns us with God and brings fulfillment....**
- F. **See Fulfillment brings Joy**

VII. How many people know that Jesus was a Giver? The greatest giver

- A. **John 3:16** : For God so Loved the World that He Gave his only son.. That whoever would believe in him would not perish, but have eternal life
- B. **Acts 20:35:** ³⁵**Lord Jesus**, how he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"
- C. For this section, I want to talk about a few things that Jesus gave to people, that if we want to be like Jesus we will give too
- D. **I could list 20 things but for time's sake I just want to mention 4.**
- E. To Help us, Let look at a great Account in Mark 6:32

Turn we me to **Mark 6:32** 32 And they went away in the boat to a desolate place by themselves. 33 Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they ran there on foot from all the towns and got there ahead of them. 34 When he went ashore he saw a great crowd, and he had **compassion** on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. And he began to **teach them** many things. 35 And when it grew late, his disciples came to him and said, "This is a desolate place, and the hour is now late. 36 Send them away to go into the surrounding countryside and villages and buy themselves something to eat." 37 But he answered them, "You give them something to eat." And they said to him, "Shall we go and buy two hundred denarii worth of bread and give it to them to eat?" 38 And he said to them, "How many loaves do you have? Go and see." And when they had found out, they said, "Five, and two fish." Stop Jump to **John 6: 9** Same Story: Where did they get the food? : **9 "There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish, but what are they for so many?**

Mark 6:39 Then he commanded them all to sit down in groups on the green grass. 40 So they sat down in groups, by hundreds and by fifties. 41 And taking the five loaves and the two fish he looked up to heaven and said a **blessing** and broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples to set before the people. And he divided the two fish among them all. 42 And they all ate and were satisfied. 43 And they took up twelve baskets full of broken pieces and of the fish. 44 And those who ate the loaves were five thousand men.

VI. Ok, Great account... lets look at 4 things Jesus gave, That we need to as well if we want to walk in Peace and fulfillment.

VIII. #1. The first thing mentioned in the account above is that: Jesus had compassion on them because they were like sheep without a Shephard.

- A. If we want to Give like Jesus, we must show people Compassion like Jesus.**
- B. In the Old Testament, 12 times it mentions the compassion of God, In the New Testament it mentions 6 times that Jesus showed compassion..... If They did, We must!
- C. Think about the compassion of Jesus, He always showed compassion: This story/he fed them, remember Him healing leppers, Remember The Woman at the Well, on and on
- D. WE all know this, but life is tough..... and we all have needs: health needs, money needs, relationship needs....**
- E. And its not just tough on us, but its tough on everyone..
- F. And Jesus wants us to show compassion to people that are hurting..
- G. and Jesus' compassion always compelled him to Action

IX. So practically, how can we show Compassion? Several ways;

- A. **1st way; We can be kind to people: Ephesians 4:32;** Be kind and compassionate to one another.....
 - B. **Remember The Lepper that came to Jesus in Matthew 8.....** (Jesus was being Kind)
 - C. This guy was an outcast, but Jesus was kind to him and helped him
 - D. **Question for us:** Who do we need to show kindness to right now?
 - E. The person that is sick, the person that comes up begging for money (you can be kind without giving \$)
 - F. **The person that has wronged you....your ex, your boss, that friend, that umpire at the game...**
 - G. **Proverbs 25:** If your enemy is hungry, give him bread to eat, and if he is thirsty, give him water to drink,²² for you will heap burning coals on his head, and the LORD will reward you.
 - H. **John 13:35: They will know we are disciples by the Love we show to one another..... WE Must Be Kind!!!**
- X. **Another way we can show compassion is going out of our way and spending time with someone in need**
- A. **Remember Zacchaeus In Luke 19 (story).....Jesus was super intentional (He went out of His way/ Woman at well)**
 - B. A lot of us know people that are hurting; sick, broken-hearted
 - C. We show compassion by going out of our way and showing them that we care about them and so does God;
 - D. Im telling you visiting someone, calling, texting someone, encouraging someone is a big deal..
 - E. We may not can pay someone's mortgage or pay off their credit card or fix their heart.... But we can love on people, we can give people

our time, we can listen, we can be intentional, and we can't point them to Jesus....

F. But to go out of our way, means we must, put our life and our schedule on hold at times.....

G. Jesus made time for needs....

XI. There are so many lonely people in this world, and God wants to use you and I to show them compassion and Kindness..

A. We have ladies at our church that make food and deserts and take them to people that are sick or shut in's, ladies that croque for babies.....we have people that go weekly to the jails and show compassion and love to people..

B. Question; is Jesus leading you to show compassion to someone?

C. People that are sick, people in a touch situation, people that dislike us?

D. Come on, We are the hands and feet of Jesus.... And the Holy Spirit wants to give us compassion

E. Kidney.... (tought things you have been through should propel us to compassion)

F. When Bad things happen to you, you can get hard or Compassinate

XII. **Last thought on compassion:** Who do we need to give a second chance to or forgive?

A. Jesus gave a lot of 2nd Chances: Peter, David, Paul, woman at the Well.... Jesus forgave a lot of people

- B. Forgiving someone that wronged you is showing compassion...\
- C. Lets keep moving...

XIII. The 2nd thing that Jesus gave is Truth..... And we need to give it out too

- A. The Passage that I read earlier about Jesus feeding the 5,000 said that He was teaching them... What was he teaching them? **Truth**
- B. Who was He teaching? “Those who were like sheep without a Shephard” these were lost, confused people
- C. These were people that needed Truth
- D. In our Culture today people need Truth
- E. And Truth is only found in God’s Word, and the Holy Spirit’s anointing on the believer to deliver Truth.

- XIV. There are so many lies and counterfeits that are going around today and it’s the job of the believer (you and me) to know the Truth, Live the Truth, and proclaim the Truth
 - A. **John 8:32:** and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.
 - B. Jesus major focus of his 3.5 years of ministry was pouring the Truth into the disciples so they would live it, and proclaim it to others.
 - C. Its our same mandate, know the Truth and proclaim it

- XV. There are a bunch of lies out there in culture: Look what Paul tells Timothy
- A. 2 Timothy 3: **3** But understand this, that in the last days there will come times of difficulty. **2** For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, **3** heartless, unappeasable, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not loving good, **4** treacherous, reckless, swollen with conceit, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God,¹³ **13** while evil people and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived. **14** But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom^[a] you learned it
 - B. Are we there?
 - C. There are Lies everywhere!
 - D. Lies about God....
 - E. Lies about Marriage...
 - F. Lies about Right and Wrong
 - G. Lies about Lifestyle and gender
 - H. Lies about boundaries and sin
 - I. Absolutes and Truth have been replaced by Cultural Realitism (what true for you may not be true for me)
- XVI. As believers we must throw out lies and believe the truth on these topics and a lot more.....
- A. Our basis for truth is found in God's word, not the tabloid, social media, youtube, or cnn or fox news....
 - B. WE are called to know it and Speak the Truth everyday... but also to speak it in Love:

- C. Just because Cultural Norms change: Shows and what they show, Politics and what is now legal or illegal
- D. A Christian must know the truth/live it/ and proclaim it
- E. That's why we must read the Word

XVII. The biggest area where truth is needed is our kids and grandkids

- A. We must be aware of what is going in our kids and be intentionaly about teaching them the Bible and Truth

XVIII. **So How do we speak Truth? Ephesians 4:15:** ¹⁵ Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ,

- B. Jesus modeled this so well
- C. Remember the woman caught in Adultry?
- D.

John 8:10 Jesus stood up and said to her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?" ¹¹ She said, "No one, Lord." And Jesus said, "Neither do I condemn you; go, and from now on sin no more."]]

- A. He spoke truth.... But in Love...
- B. Last thought on this; in our lives we need to pick our spots and proclaim truth
- C. At workplace... at School.... God gives us opportunities

XX. **The Third thing that Jesus gave was Devotion to God...**

- A. Remember when he got the 5 fish and 2 loaves, He looked up to heaven and Blessed it..... He is connecting with God
- B. Im not going to go far with this point.... But how is your walk with Jesus?
- C. If your like me sometimes my life can be overwhelming.... Work, school, Kids, practice, games, tournaments.....
- D. And a lot of times, what suffers is our walk with God....
- E. In this busy season of Life....
- F. Find time to get away with Jesus////Find the time to Pray/// Make place for spiritual disciplines in your life..
- G. Why do we want to connect with God daily? So we know him well & so we don't fall into sin

The Last thing Jesus gave in our Story at the beginning was an opportunity for Significance

- A. Back to the story, think about the kid.... All He had was 5 fish and 2 loaves
- B. Listen, that boy came prepared..... Anyone that has a kid that when they pack their lunch they take everything..... Gabe
- C. But for real, He had a couple of Sardines and some bread
- D. And then some older dudes come up to him and want it????
- E. Check it out how many people are stingy with food????
- F. Come on: how easy would it have been for that boy to say: na, or have just eaten it

XXI. But when He Gave the food, When that food left his hand it was a sacrifice and that Sacrifice led to Significance:

- A. His Giving Led to Significance

- B. Every time we Give, show compassion, give kindness, everytime we are obedient to God, everytime we Sacrifice with our time, talent, and treasure, we are choosing signficant... WE are choosing to be apart of something bigger than ourselfves!!!
- C. Remember Jesus calling some of the Disciples?
- D. Matthew 4:18 : ¹⁸ While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹ And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men
- E. Everyday we get the opportunity live our life in such a way that we are giving of ourselves to bless God and others
- F. When you serve in kids, youth, sidewalk Sunday school, knit that blanket, volunteer at Grace house, go on that Mission trip, coach that crazy Teeball team... Say no to sin, put your busyness on hold.... When you don't gossip, when you forgive....
- G. You are saying Yes to Significance

XXI. We get one life to live... are we living for Jesus? Are we making a Kingdom impact?

- A. Choose Significance.....
- B. That's Part 1.... Lets Pray**
- C. Pray that we would Give Compassion Like Jesus..... Give Truth Like Jesus.... Give Devotion like Jesus..... and Choose Significance
- D.

Part 2

XXII. Quickly I want to hit on 2 things that maybe we need fix right now in our lives

- A. How many people know, when something is broken, you must figure out how important it is to fix
- B. If your Lawnmower blades don't seem to be very sharp on your last cut in October.... You can wait a few weeks to fix
- C. But, if your foot is leaking, that a problem you need to work on today
- D. I want to give 2 things that may be broken in your life and they need fixed now

XXIII. **First thing that may need to be fixed is our Schedules**

- A. I referred to this earlier, but when your life is hectic, work, school, kids
- B. If you're a parent running from one thing to the next, to the next... to the next
- C. If your walk with God isn't the best..., if you feel like some peace has left your life, if your eating out most days of the week because your always on the run, IF your controlled by your phone, if you feel like quality time with Jesus, your kids, your spouse ins't where it should be.... Something needs to be Fixed!.....
- D. Now is the time to Stop and Let God help you re-order.re-prioritize and re-set your life..
- E. Did you know that God did this for Moses.....

XXIV. Dude was killing himself with His pace of Life and so are some of us...

- A. But is that what God wants??
- B. God doesn't want you so busy: your walk with him is bad/ family bad/ spouse/bad.....
- C. God wants you doing fruitful things/ enemy unfruitful

D. NASA Pen

XXIV. **If you feel like Moses.... God wants to help.. 3 things to help you:**

- A. **#1. Obey God and Keep the Sabbath..**
- B. What is Sabbath? Commandment... Day to Rest and enjoy God.....1 Day
- C. If we aren't keeping this command, then our life will be out of whack.... I have been terrible at this
- D. What Sabbath looks like for us...
- E. Keeping the Sabbath, saying no to somethings, is going to help your walk with God and help you walk in Peace

XXV. **#2 Don't let your phone control you:** a lot of times our smart phone is the 1st thing we grab in the morning and the last thing we grab before we fall asleep (most americans spend over 5 hours a day on a smart device!!!)

- A. It is consuming our time, it brings pressure, fear, jealousy, anxiety... and takes us away from: our families, God, and Focus, and it distractes us
- B. Our Phone is a Tool or a Tyrant... **use the Tool/ Kill the Tyrant**

XXVI. **#3 thing to help with our schedules..... Write out your schedule, pray over it, and let God help you prioritize..**

- A. We don't want to waste seasons of our life, because we are doing things that God really didn't want us to do
- B. Likewise, we don't want to not do things, that Called has called us to do...
- C. Amen...

Pray we would allow you to fix our schedules!

XXV. 2nd Thing that some of may need to fix immediately is How we See God

- A. Some of us see God as an Angry God that wants to smite us... that just tolerates us.... That doesn't love us.... And we are so fearful and we Don't see God as loving us..
- B. Some of us may see God as an Old Grandfather that we can get one over on.... He doesn't know what is going on, and He just wants to help us out sometimes.... We can get away with everything
- C. **Check it out; both views are wrong:::**
- D. God isn't absent, or checked out, He sees everything, knows everything, He knows our faults, sins, frailties, our inconsistencies at times yet.....
- E. Still Loves us, cares for us, will forgive us
- F. But he is also a God of standards and justice, but also a God that extends Mercy and Grace

XXVI. If you're seeing God in the wrong light, that will mess everything up

- A. How you live, and how you see yourself
- B. Some people think that Jesus and God are different....
- C. God was mean in the Old Testament, but Jesus is nice in the N.T.
- D. They are the same:

John 14:0.....Whoever has seen me has seen the Father.

John 10:30: I and the Father are 1

- XXV. Every Attribute of Jesus: His love, mercy, care, grace, his anger for rightenouness.... Is God
 - A. He isn't looking to smite you... But to love you.....

- B. At the same time, He isn't looking for you to think you can do whatever you want..... There is a standard
- C. The Old Covenant was there to show that we needed Jesus...
- D. See, we would see God in the right manner...
- E. But, How does God see us???
- F. **1John 3:** He sees us as His Children
- G. **Romans 8:16,17:** ¹⁶ The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.
- H. **Pray we would see God correctly**

Altar: Jesus gave a lot to us..... But the Greatest thing He gave was his Life.

Salvation