



Willie Bester shared a powerful word this Sunday, which was titled **“Is your Heart Gripped with a Cause”**.

What cause are you living for? When someone hangs out with you for a day or a week, would it be obvious to see what cause you are living for? Do you live with a cause in your heart or are you just going through life to get by?

Jesus provides an excellent example or model of someone who understood His cause. God Himself became flesh, not to be served but to serve. Jesus intentionally lived out His cause on a day to day basis. He would stop for Zaccheus in the tree always going out of His way to reach and to serve people. He then went on to be captured, and persevered by suffering on the cross because He understood His cause and why He had to go through what He went through by being the ultimate sacrifice.

John 18:37

Then Pilate said to him, “So you are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. For this purpose, I was born and for this purpose, I have come into the world - to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice.

Our circumstances are one of the greatest hindrances that prevent us from saying yes to a cause. “If you only knew what I have done or been through.” Take a moment to read Gideon’s story in Judges 6:11-18. As long as we use our circumstances as an excuse, we will never walk in the fullness of what God has for us. We cannot control our circumstances but we can control our response. Gideon did not have the perfect circumstances yet he led a mighty army. It wasn’t his leadership skills or ability but rather his obedience to the One who called him

There is a cause to your life that involves a **loving Father** that is calling you. And if He calls you, He is with you. He has a plan for your life. One encounter with God changes your life and the cause we are all called to, is to advance the Kingdom. The kingdom is God’s will, here on earth. When you say yes to the cause you will have to say no to some other things. We are all called to respond to the great commission (see Matt 28:19-20).

God’s 3-point plan for reconciliation with Him:

1. He sent us His son, Jesus - there had to be atonement for sin.
2. Jesus had to leave so that God could pour out His Spirit to empower us. Obedience to the Holy Spirit is obedience to the cause, it is so encouraging to know that the Holy Spirit councils, guides, and comforts us.
3. The local church, His bride - Jesus is coming back for His church, not an organization but for YOU! The local church is a part of that cause, not for any institution, but for you as a Christian who is called to advance the Kingdom of God.

Reflection:

1. Ask God what His cause is for your life. How can you advance the Kingdom in your sphere of influence?
2. What practical step (big or small) can you take this week to walk in the cause God has for your life?