

“Who’s Counting On You?”

Part 5 “It’s a Wonderful Life”

Sunday, April 7, 2019

VIDEO – “Hacksaw Ridge” “Who’s Counting On You?”

Mark 1:17 *“Come follow me and I will transform you into men who catch people instead of fish!*

“Catching People” –

Jesus said *“If you’re truly following me you will impact those around you”*

“I will make you – I will transform you into who you are not yet” but always intended to be.”

“Who you presently are is not who I will make you into!”

“When you follow me, other people will benefit from it”

?Are you a follower of Jesus?

No, Not do you believe in God!

“Well I know about Him”

“Yes, I attend Church”

“Yes, I participate in Holy Communion”

“I’m a pretty good person” – **again not what I asked.**

“I try live a good life, I don’t run around on my wife”

“I pray when I need to”

“I consider myself a person of faith, a religious person...

“well my parents were very religious”

I think that at times we are so busy with our agenda
That we don’t understand God’s agenda
That God is not in our lives to help me fulfill my vision for my life.

But He is in your life to use you to fulfill His vision for your life.

"It's about the Kingdom!"

Jesus is God, we worship God and He is our King.

He is the King of kings and a king **must have a kingdom.**

We need to have a ***kingdom perspective*** -

We don't always think as a ***team***, or think as a ***family***.

We need to think "**collectively**" Strength in numbers!

You can't do anything with a divisive people" – they are destructive, selfish, self-centered and when you begin to move up – they will do whatever they can to pull you down.

"The nail that sticks out gets hammered down."

People usually use this saying to make a point about Japan,
how it's hard to be different, and that any deviance is met with resistance.

American idiom: ***"The squeaky wheel gets the grease."***

In Leadership – ***"the squeaky wheel gets replaced"***

Ever have any "Squeaky" people around you?

Always complaining- never satisfied, refuse to be content!

1 Peter 2:9 (KJV) ⁹ But ye are a ***chosen generation,***
I didn't choose you, you didn't choose me- GOD CHOSE US!
a royal priesthood, an holy nation, **a peculiar people;** that ye
should **shew forth** the praises of him who hath called you out of
darkness into his marvellous light;

That ye should- ***"Show forth"*** - ***"Show out", Stand out,***

Why are we here? Why did God create you?

Your existence brings Him pleasure!

You are unique, one of kind, special, "Apple" of His eye! Not (s)

(TPT) ⁹ But you are God's chosen treasure—priests who are kings, a spiritual “nation” set apart as God's devoted ones. He called you out of darkness to experience his marvelous light, and now he claims you as his very own. **He did this so that you would broadcast his glorious wonders throughout the world.**

God thinks Collectively - Kingdom First Thinking!

“We are in this together!

Our God has an overall strategy to get His plans, His purposes completed.

Rev 4:11 *Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.*

Acts 4:13 Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus. “You can judge for yourselves—is it better to listen to you or to God? ²⁰ It’s impossible for us to stop speaking about all the things we’ve seen and heard!”

“They took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus!”

There is an undeniable **effect** that Jesus has on people who spend time with Him.

Your uniqueness gets clearer.

Understand that “We cannot have unity without diversity!

Not divisiveness- **diversity**- we are different but we have ONE – Purpose- We pursue that purpose together-

We think about it- we pray about it.. Etc.. Etc...

Do you understand that you become like what you worship!

Psalms 115:8 *They that make them are like unto them; so is every one that trusteth in them.*

2 Corinthians 3:18 (KJV) ¹⁸*But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.*

MSG - ¹⁶⁻¹⁸*Whenever, though, they turn to face God as Moses did, God removes the veil and there they are—face-to-face! They suddenly recognize that God is a living, personal presence, not a piece of chiseled stone. And when God is personally present, a living Spirit, that old, constricting legislation is recognized as obsolete. We're free of it! All of us! Nothing between us and God, our faces shining with the brightness of his face. And so we are transfigured much like the Messiah, our lives gradually becoming brighter and more beautiful as God enters our lives and we become like him.*

I need you to be different.

I need you to be **you**- the best you God created you to be!

Can people tell from your life that you have spent time with the Jesus?- Or do you look like something, or someone else?

Acts 4:13(TPT) ¹³*The council members were astonished as they witnessed the bold courage of Peter and John, especially when they discovered that they were just ordinary men who had never had religious training. Then they began to understand the effect Jesus had on them simply by spending time with him.*

What effect?- the boldness, their wisdom that was beyond formal training.

See the Pharisee's much like today's thinking, thought that boldness only came through special gifting – you were born with it.

Or if you were not ***born gifted*** than you were ordinary and needed to be formally trained to be bold. to be wise.

That the ability to speak and live with boldness came through rite of birth or rigors training.

Peter and John were neither.

When you are following Jesus

He changes the ordinary into extraordinary!

He is your unique giftedness,

He is your wisdom,

Jesus makes you bold!

Personal Story: St Bernard- Inner tube.. Phil 3:2 Beware of Dogs

Are you a true follower of Jesus

What was it about the disciples that they noticed?

What are the visible, clearly seen evidences that I am a Christ Follower?

What does a disciple look like?

What does a disciple sound like?

David's Life:

Acts 13:22 (KJV) *22 And when he had removed him, he raised up unto them David to be their king; to whom also he gave their testimony, and said, I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after mine own heart, which shall fulfil all my will.*

**"I have found. Man who after my purposes,
My Will, My destiny, My Design, My Agenda!"**

I have found a man who is after My strategy, - for his life!"

NOTICE - He didn't say I have found man who is perfect
Who has it all together...
It's not that he is pure...
It's not even that David was a man who praised Him.

It's not the message that I can just praise God and live anyway I want to. NO!

**It's not about your praise – it's about your purpose!
Praise connected to your purpose – releases the Power**

David Served His generation!

Acts 13:36 *For David, after he had served his own generation by the will of God, fell on sleep, and was laid unto his fathers, and saw corruption:*

We have a whole generation of church people all dressed up and going nowhere!

**Look like something they are not! – FALSE ADVERTISING!
“Well they looked like nice people...”**

How Can I know if I am truly Following Jesus?

1) Do what Jesus says to do!

Matthew 17:5 “this is my beloved son in whom I am well pleased – HEAR YE HIM!

“Listen to Him” Listen to God!

Followers – listen to God – Followers obey Jesus!

Matthew 7:21-23 *21 Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. 22 Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? 23 And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.*

“Why call me Lord, Lord, and Do not what I say!”

Are you listening to God – and Doing what He is saying!

Followers of Jesus Stay out of the Dark!

John 8:12 *Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.*

Following Jesus is a desire of my heart.

It's not a religious duty,

A vital, daily living relationship of pleasing Him.

Mark 12:30 *And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment.*

Whole heart- not a divided heart half in the world and half in the church. “Whole Heart”

Love God with mind- I will be careful of what I think about,
Cannot watch everything available on TV- that challenges your purity and say that you ate Loving God with your mind.
As a man thinketh in his heart – So is he!

Matthew 28: 18-20 *18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.
19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:
20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.*

Jesus Sent His followers into a World of hatred, animosity and death

COMMUNION. 10:31

Who's Counting on you?

To reach people we have never reached, we must do what we have never done!

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Candy Egg Stuffing Party

D2D Next Saturday 10:00am-12:00