

Power of The Spirit to Change Course

The Spirit of Life - Week 10 (1-5-22)

Acts 1:6-8

I. The Call to Change Course

A. Challenges either way

1. Healthy living vs. Unhealthy living - Example: Food/Exercise
 - a) Both will cost you something, and both have certain “benefits.”
 - (1) Which one has more lasting and life-giving benefits?
2. Jesus did “...not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.” Matt. 9:13
 - a) We all fit this description whether we realize it or not! - None are righteous - Romans 3:10
 - b) The sooner you can recognize your own unrighteousness, the sooner you can repent or change course.
 - (1) The Pharisees were the sickest of them all, but were too proud to admit or even see it.

B. All Things New

1. Jesus came to make us completely new not to just patch up our old lives.
 - a) Matt. 9:16-17 - We need a new nature to create a new direction in life. - Course change.
 - (1) A change of nature will change your course - Eph. 5:14-21
 - (2) 2 Corin. 5:17 - New creation in Christ! - a new nature

II. Impacting Other People's Course - Matt. 9:36-10:1

A. Psalm 23 “upside down”

1. Lacking, no green pastures of tender grass, no paths that lead to righteousness, fear of evil, no comfort or security, no anointing, an empty cup, goodness and mercy will not be with you, no dwelling in the house of the Lord.
2. Jesus was motivated with compassion because the people had no shepherd to lead and take care of them.
 - a) Faith that acts! - James 2:17-20
 - (1) This is where religion is exchanged for relationship and we go from good intentions to acting in faith, from emptiness to overflowing, from head knowledge to acting on that knowledge, information to revelation.
 - (2) Following The Good Shepherd is not complicated, but it must be real!

B. The need for laborers is great, and is the purpose of the “team” that Jesus has built.

C. “...Freely you have received, freely give.” Matt. 10:8

1. Take up your “cross” and follow Him - Matt. 16:24
2. Let's not be responsible for the harvest being wasted
 - a) Make the effort to act on your faith and change course and impact the course of others as well.