

5 core values 5: The Sacrificial Jesus. Main passage Mk 10.17-45

Outline:

bugb 5 core values

sacrificial community

bugb sacrificial community

sacrificial Jesus: we must look at the example and teaching of Jesus to see what this means

The Sacrificial Jesus

#In Mark 10 we see

- The rich young ruler: Jesus was not 'down' on this man, he didn't criticise him for being rich – Jesus was life affirming: if you are blessed; thank God – it is the goodness of God that leads us to repentance – but we mustn't trust in the blessings, but the God who gives them, and sometimes we must make a break with those good things that could hold us back.... See verse 24 'trust in riches'

"Give away your golden shackles"

#In Mark 10 we see

- There will be a 'Great Reversal': first and last, there is a day coming which will put everything right, in the meantime we do not lose by letting go of things to follow Jesus...
- Jim Elliot said

"He is no fool who gives up that which he cannot keep, to gain that which he cannot lose"

In Mark 10 we see

- Suffering and 'failure' are not a sign of God's disapproval: Jesus was going to Jerusalem, to make himself vulnerable to those who would take advantage, abuse and finally kill him – and yet he would be raised to life again – the resurrection is proof of God's approval and blessing; suffering is part of life, failure only exists within a certain timeframe, the seed falling into the ground and dying is only failure, loss and death if you do not wait for the harvest.

In Mark 10 we see

- Servant Leadership: Jesus humbled himself to become a man, and went further to serve those he led, and finally to die for them – complete and total sacrifice. James and John wanted throne-

side seats, but they were mistaken about the nature of leadership in the kingdom of God.

A Sacrificial Community

— We will seek to hold our positions and possessions lightly
Following Jesus means following a crucified Saviour who laid down his life in service. This creates distinctive communities. Too easily God's passion for the world is domesticated and the offence of the cross is lost. Faith becomes separated from the poverty and particularity of Jesus, with dire consequences for mission. Baptist communities will resist the temptations of worldly power and triumphalism. We will recognise the importance of vulnerability and the necessity of sacrifice as the path to resurrection and new life. We will embrace the call to live with paradox and failure. We will seek to reflect the generous life-giving nature of God.

A Sacrificial Community

- We will seek to hold our positions and possessions lightly
 - We will enjoy them
 - We will be grateful for them **BUT**
 - We will not see them as ends in themselves
 - We will be free to share them

A Sacrificial Community

— We will embrace Incarnation

- We will live in the world, but not be owned by it
- We will celebrate the good in the world

We are life affirming, not critical, not denying reality to try and force it into an oversimplified theology of cause and effect

- We will seek out the wrong and hurt in the world, to bring God's love to it

A Sacrificial Community

- We will aim to reflect God's generosity with
 - our time
 - our talents
 - our treasure

bugb sacrificial community

Most of all we look and see Jesus, come from heaven, humbling himself as a man, washing the disciples feet, then giving his life freely as a ransom to buy us out of slavery – we live in and relish our freedom, and we willingly use it to serve others so that they may see him too.