



Riverstone
BAPTIST CHURCH

Sermon Based Questions

Date- Sunday 23rd May 2021

Series- Surprise the World 4

Listen as Sent ones

Again Jesus said; "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit."

John 20: 21-22

1. We need to develop the habit of listening to the Spirit.

- The Spirit is power for witness. Acts 1:8
- Overcoming laziness, fear and indifference.
- Navigating the tricky questions of engaging in mission.
Incarnate without compromise.
- Sit with the Spirit; ask- Who am I sent too!

2. We need to develop the habit of seeing ourselves as "sent ones."

- Jesus as the ultimate "sent one, who sends us."
- Sentness as Reconciliation, beauty and justice.
- Habit as identity forming. Journal your sentness. Who/how/ what? If not this what- how could you change your self perception as being a sent one.

A. Examining the texts.

1. Read John 20:21-22. What do these verses say about Jesus and about his disciples? How do you think the Holy Spirit relates to sentness here?
2. Read Acts 1:8 and Matthew 28:18-20. How do these verses speak to sentness and how do they speak to the Spirit's role in that?
3. Read Matthew 5:13-16. What do these verses say into the theme of sentness? How does Jesus want his disciples to see themselves? What is the role that Jesus gives his disciples to this end?
4. Read Matthew 10:1-8. How does this passage point toward "sentness?" What were the disciples to do and who were they sent by?

B. Meditation & application

5. Spend time "listening to the Spirit." Sit quietly with- Acts 1:8 and Matthew 28:18-20. Ask who specifically for God to bring to you names of people who he is sending you too? (Work mates, neighbors, friends) Ask for his leading for some next steps in your relationship with them?
6. Spend time listening to the Spirit and reflect on recent engagement with an "unbeliever," ask him- what about that honored God- were might we have fallen short and again- what is the next step?
7. Once this week journal somewhere about your own sentness. Ask yourself who am I being sent too and how you could alert others to the universal reign of God in Christ Jesus through peace-making, leading others toward beauty and pursuing justice?

"If you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them." John 13:17

Dear heavenly Father- we praise you for sending your Son, sending your Spirit and sending us into your world to be and take good news? Help us to develop habits and practices that lead us into your world as missionaries. Help us to embrace our sentness and pursuit it- with all the strength you provide?