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| Gal 5:19-26John 4:5-30Luke 19:1-10 | Jesus Sent because Jesus Went | Pinelands – 9am – 12/01/2025 |

You will have been reminded about last week’s sermon with the handout you received this morning…

 ***“Mission is…***

***Walking with Jesus in the company of others***

***for the sake of the world.”***

**Last week** we looked at..

**Jesus’ Mission Strategy – Jesus Sends…**

He was sent… His Disciples

***AND…*** We are sent…

***“To walk with Jesus in the company of others***

***for the sake of the world.”***

As much as…

**JESUS *SENT…*** *His* ***Mission Strategy…***

**JESUS** also… ***WENT…*** *His* ***Example to us***

 **Jesus SENT…** Because… **Jesus WENT**

**Jesus** was **very intentional** when **HE WENT**

***JESUS****…* ***Walked*** *and* ***Stopped*** *and* ***Engaged…******Others***

When Jesus **calls his disciples…**

He stops and engages with them

When Jesus **heals…** He stops and engages with people

When Jesus **performs miracles…**

 He stops and engages with people

**Let us read two stories…**

1. **John 4:5-30…**

Jesus on his way from Judaea to Galilee…

1. **Luke 19:1-9…** (Story of Zacchaeus)

**In both Stories…**

 **Jesus… Stops and Engages…**

 With the **Samaritan Women and Zacchaeus.**

**The Samaritan Woman…**

 Had a ***reputation*** - Had 5 Husbands

 - Now Living with another man

 *(even by todays standards that is questionable)*

 ***Low self-image***  - draws water at noon…

 (when no-one else is around)

**Zacchaeus…**

 Had a ***reputation*** - chief tax collector *(not popular)*

 - shorter than most *(climbs a tree)*

 ***Healthy self-image*** - Successful

 - Rich

**BOTH…** Are known as / considered to be… **SINNERS**

 *Know of Jesus / the Messiah*

 *(maybe* ***not who*** *He is…* ***but about*** *Him)*

 **Represent people in our society…**

 Our friends and Strangers… even ***US…***

EVERYBODY

**JESUS…** ***Stops and Engages* with each person…**

**JESUS is…** The Promised Messiah

 A Prophet, The Saviour of the World

 ***“The Son of Man who came to seek***

***and save the lost”***  (Luke 19:10)

**WHO ARE WE?**

 **We are…** Followers of Jesus… Disciples of Jesus

Christians.

 Children of the Most High God

 Anointed with the Holy Spirit

**JESUS…** ***Stops and Engages* with each of US.**

***BUT…***  Just as **Jesus** **stopped** and **engaged with others…**

***AND…***  Just as **Jesus** **stops** and **engages with US…**

We need to ***Stop and Engage*** with those… Around us

 In Our World…

 *(Whoever they are)*

**It is that…** **STOPPING** and **ENGAGING** with Others…

 I want to focus on for a few moments

Why are we so reluctant to **STOP** and **ENGAGE** with others?

 **Are we…** Too BUSY? - Hurried, got to keep moving

 AFRAID? - Lack confidence, not sure where

this will lead, embarrassed

 NOT interested - Why do this? Inconvenient.

 RESISTANT - Someone else’s JOB

 **Are we…** ***JUST DOING CHURCH?*** because…

it is what we have always done.

 ***JUST…*** Keeping up appearances?

 ***JUST*** here for the tea and fellowship?

**We ALL have EXCUSES…** Some hold water, ***OTHERS*** do not

 BUT… At the end of the day…

 **They are JUST EXCUSES**

**We are all SENT…**

***“To walk with Jesus in the company of others, for the sake of the world.”***

**What it really comes down to is…**

 **HOW SERIOUS ARE YOU…**

About **JESUS?**

About **FOLLOWING JESUS?**

About your **FAITH / CHRISTIANITY?**

**PAUL…** in **Galatians 5:22-23**

 Gives us a healthy glimpse into the ***CHARACTER of JESUS***

 What we call the ***Fruit of the Spirit…***

 ***Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness,***

 ***Gentleness, Faithfulness, Humility,***

 ***And Self-Control.***

If we Bring any of those characteristics ***(Fruit of the Spirit)…***

Into any **ENGAGEMENT** or **INTERACTION…**

 We bring **JESUS** **into that moment.**

Notice **What Jesus DOES** for both the…

Samaritan Woman and Zacchaeus.

**Samaritan Woman…**

 **Jesus asks** for a drink…

Socially taboo… *(breaks a barrier)*

 Jews and Samaritans do not mix

 **Treats her with dignity…**

 Ignores her reputation

 Gives her ‘worth’

 **Points her to God** / Salvation

***WAS HE NOT…*** **Loving, Kind, Gentle, Patient,**

**Self-Controlled?**

**Zacchaeus…**

 **Jesus speaks** to Zacchaeus…

by name… Personal

 gives dignity

**Ignores** his reputation *(sinner)*

Affirms his salvation

***WAS HE NOT…*** **Humble, Kind, Gentle,**

**Self-Controlled?**

**JESUS** in his ministry… **WENT**

**AND SO… Gives us an EXAMPLE to FOLLOW**

***“To walk with Jesus in the company of others, for the sake of the world.”***

As we **STOP and ENGAGE with OTHERS…** *(Whoever they are)*

**DO we… Bring LIFE to them?? JESUS to them?**

 ***Do we…*** Speak to them in a dignified way?

 Listen to them without Prejudice?

Offer practical help?

 Visit them in Hospital?

 Tell them we love them?

 ***Do we…*** *Point them to Jesus?*

 *Invite them to Church?*

**Do our engagements with others…** ***REFLECT…***

***Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness,***

 ***Gentleness, Faithfulness, Humility,***

 ***And Self-Control.***

**Do our engagements with others…** ***CONTAIN…***

***Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness,***

 ***Gentleness, Faithfulness, Humility,***

 ***And Self-Control.***

**We are SENT…** Because **JESUS WENT**

 **To *STOP* and *ENGAGE* with others**

We do that by…

***“Walking with Jesus in the company of others, for the sake of the world.”***

**Galatians 5:19-26**

What human nature does is quite plain. It shows itself in immoral, filthy, and indecent actions; in worship of idols and witchcraft. People become enemies and they fight; they become jealous, angry, and ambitious. They separate into parties and groups; they are envious, get drunk, have orgies, and do other things like these. I warn you now as I have before: those who do these things will not possess the Kingdom of God.

But the Spirit produces love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, humility, and self-control. There is no law against such things as these. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have put to death their human nature with all its passions and desires. The Spirit has given us life; he must also control our lives. We must not be proud or irritate one another or be jealous of one another.

**John 4:5-30**

In Samaria he came to a town named Sychar, which was not far from the field that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by the trip, sat down by the well. It was about noon.

A Samaritan woman came to draw some water, and Jesus said to her, “Give me a drink of water.” (His disciples had gone into town to buy food.)

The woman answered, “You are a Jew, and I am a Samaritan—so how can you ask me for a drink?” (Jews will not use the same cups and bowls that Samaritans use.)

Jesus answered, “If you only knew what God gives and who it is that is asking you for a drink, you would ask him, and he would give you life-giving water.”

“Sir,” the woman said, “you don't have a bucket, and the well is deep. Where would you get that life-giving water? It was our ancestor Jacob who gave us this well; he and his children and his flocks all drank from it. You don't claim to be greater than Jacob, do you?”

Jesus answered, “Those who drink this water will get thirsty again, but those who drink the water that I will give them will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give them will become in them a spring which will provide them with life-giving water and give them eternal life.”

“Sir,” the woman said, “give me that water! Then I will never be thirsty again, nor will I have to come here to draw water.”

“Go and call your husband,” Jesus told her, “and come back.”

“I don't have a husband,” she answered.

Jesus replied, “You are right when you say you don't have a husband. You have been married to five men, and the man you live with now is not really your husband. You have told me the truth.”

“I see you are a prophet, sir,” the woman said. “My Samaritan ancestors worshiped God on this mountain, but you Jews say that Jerusalem is the place where we should worship God.”

Jesus said to her, “Believe me, woman, the time will come when people will not worship the Father either on this mountain or in Jerusalem. You Samaritans do not really know whom you worship; but we Jews know whom we worship, because it is from the Jews that salvation comes. But the time is coming and is already here, when by the power of God's Spirit people will worship the Father as he really is, offering him the true worship that he wants. God is Spirit, and only by the power of his Spirit can people worship him as he really is.”

The woman said to him, “I know that the Messiah will come, and when he comes, he will tell us everything.”

Jesus answered, “I am he, I who am talking with you.”

At that moment Jesus' disciples returned, and they were greatly surprised to find him talking with a woman. But none of them said to her, “What do you want?” or asked him, “Why are you talking with her?”

Then the woman left her water jar, went back to the town, and said to the people there, “Come and see the man who told me everything I have ever done. Could he be the Messiah?” So they left the town and went to Jesus

**Luke 19:1-10 Jesus and Zacchaeus**

Jesus went on into Jericho and was passing through. There was a chief tax collector there named Zacchaeus, who was rich. He was trying to see who Jesus was, but he was a little man and could not see Jesus because of the crowd. So he ran ahead of the crowd and climbed a sycamore tree to see Jesus, who was going to pass that way. When Jesus came to that place, he looked up and said to Zacchaeus, “Hurry down, Zacchaeus, because I must stay in your house today.”

Zacchaeus hurried down and welcomed him with great joy. All the people who saw it started grumbling, “This man has gone as a guest to the home of a sinner!”

Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, “Listen, sir! I will give half my belongings to the poor, and if I have cheated anyone, I will pay back four times as much.”

Jesus said to him, “Salvation has come to this house today, for this man, also, is a descendant of Abraham. 10 The Son of Man came to seek and to

Save the lost.”