

Name:

Motivated for Mission

Speaker: Paul Clarke

24-26 April 2009

Sunningdale Park



St Peter's Barge
London's Floating Church

Session 1: Matthew 13:44-46

The treasure we enjoy

Introduction

Just one life...

Loving Jesus & evangelism

1. Following Jesus costs you everything

2. Following Jesus is more than worth it anyway!

Joy

3. How highly do you value Jesus?

His true worth is in no doubt...

Conclusion

To reflect on & to discuss together:

1. What things compete with Jesus for 'ultimate value' in your heart?
2. How valuable are those things *really*, in comparison with Jesus?

The Compassion We Feel

The compassion of the Christ

- 1. The sheep need the shepherd, v36**
- 2. The harvest needs more labourers, v37**
- 3. Therefore, the disciples need to pray, v38**

Conclusion

To reflect on & pray about:

1. Write down the names of a few people that you would like to hear about Jesus some time soon. Spend some time praying for them.
2. God is in charge of the harvest. Spend some time praying that God will use this weekend and all the ministry of St Peter's (i) to equip ALL of us to be his workers in the harvest, and (ii) to set aside a FEW as full-time paid gospel workers as well. What criteria should you use to decide whether you are one of the 'few'? (Maybe pray through 1 Timothy 3:1-13)

Session 3: Matthew 13:1-23

The seed we sow

Introduction

Matthew 13 is both an auto-biography & a training course

1. In evangelism, we sow the seed of God's word.

2. In evangelism, we expect both disappointment & an abundant harvest.

i. Expect some disappointment

a. The seed on the path – snatched by the devil

b. The seed on shallow ground – seared by the world

c. The seed on thorny ground – strangled by the flesh

'He who has ears, let him hear'

ii. Expect an abundant harvest

Conclusion

To reflect on & pray about:

1. 'The true Christian routinely tends the garden of their soul.' Which thorns are growing up in your life at the moment? How, by God's grace, do you plan to weed them out?

2. 'Invitations to church should be the natural extension of, and not a replacement for, my personal conversations about Jesus.' Reflect on how true that is in your own life, and ask God for specific help in that regard.

Session 4: Matthew 28:18-20

The Lord we proclaim

Introduction

The universal & exclusive authority of Jesus, v18

The legitimate & compelled mission of the church

1. The Command: Tell ALL the world about Jesus, v19-20a

WHAT? Making disciples = evangelism + edification

WHO? This is a command for every Christian

cf. Luke 9:60 'And Jesus said to him, "Leave the dead to bury their own dead. But as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God."

WHERE? This is a command about ALL the world

2. The Promise: Trust that Jesus is with you ALWAYS, v20b

Conclusion: one more story...

Questions to reflect on, discuss & pray about:

1. How will the authority of Jesus in verse 18 & the promise of Jesus in verse 20 help you to obey the command of Jesus in verse 19?
2. Write down and pray about (a) one big thing you've learned about God / Jesus from Matthew's gospel and (b) one big resolution you've made before God during the weekend.

Session 5: Speaking Christianly to other Christians

Introduction

1. Christians are united together by the Holy Spirit

2. The Holy Spirit helps us in our conversations

(i) Because we don't get on

(ii) Sin in our life

(iii) Not sure what to say

3. Our conversations help us and others keep being Christian

Notes

Resources

'Know and Tell the Gospel', John Chapman

'Let the Nations Be Glad: The Supremacy of God in Missions', John Piper

'Questioning Evangelism', Randy Newman

'The gospel and personal evangelism', Mark Dever

Biographies

'Jim Eliot: He is no fool', Irene Howat

'Moody without Sankey', John Pollock

Join us for our next Barge weekend away!

16 - 18 October 2009

Denham Grove, Uxbridge, Buckinghamshire

Speaker: Bishop Wallace Benn

TIMETABLE

FRIDAY

2:00pm..... Check-in

7:00 - 9:00pm Supper

SATURDAY

8:00am..... Breakfast

9:45am Session 1: conference room

11:00am..... Coffee / Tea break

11:45am..... Session 2: conference room

1:00pm..... Lunch

Afternoon..... Free time

4:30pm..... Coffee / Tea break

Children's tea

5:00pm..... Session 3: conference room

7:00pm..... Supper

8:30pm..... Evening activities

9:00pm..... Free time

SUNDAY

8:00am..... Breakfast & check out

10:00am..... Session 4: conference room

11:15am..... Coffee / Tea break

11:45am..... Session 5: conference room

12:30pm..... Lunch

Departure

4:00 & 6:30pm Services on the Barge