

Go by Jackie Pullinger

by Compilations

The gospel brings life to the receiver and death to the giver, and we are called to follow Jesus' example by giving up our lives to serve God.

Duration: 6:33

Scripture: Matthew 16:24-25, Matthew 28:19-20, Mark 8:34, John 10:17-18, John 12:24, Acts 1:8, Romans 12:1, James 1:27

Topics: "The Cross", "Evangelism"

Description

This sermon emphasizes the principle that the gospel brings life to the receiver and death to the giver, drawing parallels between Jesus' sacrifice and the call for believers to take up their cross and follow Him. It highlights the extraordinary love of God in sending His Son to die for humanity and the voluntary response required from believers to give up their lives in service. The urgency to reach the desperate and poor with the message of Jesus is underscored, urging Christians to go to the ends of the earth to share the gospel.

Transcript

The principle of the gospel is this. The gospel always brings life to the receiver and death to the giver. If the gospel brought death to Jesus Christ, why would we think that in preaching the gospel it would be any less for us? So God, he says, if anybody would be my disciple, he must take up his cross and follow me.

If it killed him to give life to us and he invites us then to do the same, why would we expect that it would be any less? So the mixture of our message is life and death, and laughter and tears, and such it is. But for us, life is never ordinary. Life is never flat.

And this is what Jesus said about his father in John 17. The reason my father loves me is that I lay down my life only to take it up again. No one takes it from me.

Jesus was not sentenced to die by his father. He was allowed to choose. I have authority to lay it down and I have authority to take it up again.

He said this is why my father loves me. God the Father had this extraordinary plan of winning you and me for eternity by having his son killed. But his son voluntarily responded.

No, it's not so easy for him to respond. In fact, he spent his whole life practicing, and even the night before it was still difficult for Jesus. And he said, God, is there another way? Is there another way? And I know many, many people in the church say, is there another way? And in our Hong Kong churches, it does look as if there's another way.

Normal Christians live a normal Christian life, go to meetings, jump up and down on stages while we are exhausted and die. And they go, oh, you've got a special ministry, Jackie. And I say, oh no, I think we're all called to give up our lives.

Would you like to do this with us? We'd really like some help. The poor people all over the earth who have never heard of Jesus, they are the poorest people. They are desperate for food.

They're desperate for blankets. They're desperate for medicine. They're desperate for water.

The most number of people worldwide who've never heard about the love of the Lord Jesus Christ are desperately poor. And they are not going to come here to hear the gospel. We have to go there.

So why haven't people gone? Something to do with guarding a life and living a normal life so other people can go. But I say, no, why don't you all go if you've tasted such good things? Go to the ends of the earth because those poor aren't going to watch Jesus on TV. They haven't got electricity.

They're not going to hear about Him unless we go. So would you? I'm here with a plea for you. If you've known the love of God, if you've tasted of His sweetness at all, there's no other way to serve Him except giving up your life.

And this is voluntary. This is not a sentence at all. We're not sentenced to death.

We're just privileged to answer His call. If you've known the love of God, if you've tasted of His sweetness at all, there's no other way to serve Him except giving up your life. If you've known the love of God, if you've tasted of His sweetness at all, there's no other way to serve Him except giving up your life.

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