

Lifting Up Our Eyes - Part 3

by K.P. Yohannan

We are called to be radicals for Christ, giving up our lives for the sake of the gospel and spending time with God in prayer and fasting to know His burdens.

Duration: 7:47

Scripture: Psalm 2:8, Isaiah 6:8, Matthew 9:38, Matthew 10:28, Matthew 16:24, Acts 20:24, Philippians 1:21, Colossians 4:2, 1 Thessalonians 5:17

Topics: "Missions", "Persecution"

Description

This sermon emphasizes the sacrifices and persecution faced by missionaries in the mission field, highlighting the extreme challenges and dangers they encounter for the sake of spreading the Gospel. It shares stories of missionaries being martyred, families torn apart, and individuals making the ultimate choice to surrender their lives to Christ despite the risks. The message calls for a deep commitment to prayer, intimacy with God, and a global perspective in Christian living, urging believers to dedicate time for fasting, prayer, and intercession for the nations.

Transcript

Christianity Jesus called us for? And I tell you, in mission field, literally thousands are coming to Christ almost every hour, but there's a price paid. You go to the website and simply take some time, don't look for your movies to rent, look at the websites like GFA.org or any and see every day thousands are butchered, murdered for the sake of Christ in many nations. There's not a week go by I don't hear about 10-12 of our missionaries beaten, abused, bones broken.

One of our missionary who baptized over 100 people, early morning he was going on his bicycle to ministry. A group of men caught them in Bihar. You know what they did? They stripped him naked and took a razor blade, went all over his body, left him to die on the roadside.

Two missionaries went in northeast to welcome the Muslims. They won 18 or 19 people to the Lord baptized and one morning these two brothers were going about their evangelism ministry when they met a group of men and the leader of the gang stepped forward, took a long dragon, stabbed in the heart of Hussain and he fell in a pool of blood, leaving his wife and two kids behind and Salsal, his co-worker, they stabbed him six times. He recovered after many months.

You know, my sisters, listen to this. This young wife, the wife of this missionary who was murdered, she's a Muslim convert. Her parents are not Christians.

She was alone with her husband and two kids in a strange mission field. Hearing about the news about her husband being murdered, her father came from a distant village and said, my daughter, thank God the devil is dead. Now you come home with me with my grandchildren.

Now the answer to this anger of Bihar, my father, I can't. I love these people. I love Jesus.

I will raise my children to take the place of my husband and they must serve the Lord. And that shocked this father who is a Muslim. In two weeks time she led in the Lord Jesus Christ and he was baptized.

Hallelujah! But here's the thing. I can tell you all the events and stories that's going on, unbelievable. But please understand, it is not because some magical powers or some super brains.

It is because behind it are individuals who made a choice, my life is not my own, it is His. And that's what it's all about. However that interpreted in your personal life, if you do that, I tell you, when we stand before the Lord, it is not going to be just you and me and our little families, but millions and no man can number multitudes and will dance forever.

And I tell you, that is what our destiny is. And I pray that this earth, the things of the world and friendships and whatever else, the pull of the flesh will not stop us from going forward to take the world with us to heaven. Whether we go or stay, whatever, let us be radicals.

Now for me, when the Lord told us to do this, one of the greatest joy was saying, Lord I will do that. Little did I know when I made that surrender, that what it meant was I was linking my life with brothers and sisters, that the Lord will use to see so many come to know the Lord. One of the mission field I was in early days of my life with Operation Mobilization is in Punjab, people who wear this turban thing.

And we have a Bible college there, we have 54 Bible colleges with over 7,000 students in all these 10 countries by the way. We graduate over 2,000. These are not Americans, these are people from their own countries who go to the unreached people groups in their country or the near country, whatever, it's unbelievable.

And this one young man went to the place, this particular mission field, so difficult. Usually they fast and pray for God to go before them, because you're dealing with a huge amount of demon possessed people and sick people and opposition and all that. This dear brother was going about ministering and one day he saw this family sitting so sad and gloomy like somebody died in their home.

And he said, what happened? They said, well our buffalo, we milk the buffalo and sell the milk and make a living, but our buffalo is dying, we don't know what to do. Then he looked over and saw the animal there and he said, well I'll pray to Jesus for your buffalo. And he quietly said, Lord this is the only chance, please do something about it.

And he laid hand on his dying buffalo and he prayed before he could finish the prayer. That buffalo jumped up and he shocked the family, end up giving all their lives to the Lord, more people came to the Lord and he baptized over a period of many months of over 120, 140 people and the church was built. First church in the community, so that we would not forget what God did, we named the church the Buffalo Church.

It's a cool idea. How do we translate all this? You know, there's several things I would recommend to you. One, we all pray, but did you know there's a study being released about our country, Christians in America.

Average believer pray less than eight minutes a day and ministers pray less than 12 minutes a day. I'm not talking about this church obviously, but I just ask you, when was the last time you spent an hour or two with the Lord? When was the last time the burden he shared with you, because intimacy with him, so much you called into the workplace and said, I can't come home today, I am sick. They said, you are sick? Well, I can tell you, I just, I just can't work, I am sick.

You are sick and broken up by Christ when you walked on earth. Now you are his, but you will never, never, never know this with all the theology and preaching and consultations and counsels, unless you be his to be with him. Let him tell you his burdens.

My recommendation to you, which I make to our people over here, make one day of the week for fasting and prayer, and get a world map. What do you mean world map? Become a world, there it is, become a world Christian, someone said, not a world Christian. When my kids were growing up in Dallas, we had the world map by our dining table, and every day we looked at this, talked about different countries and prayed for the different countries, we got Operation World Book.

You know what the kids did? We never told them go to the mission field, but when they finished their studies, they ran off, one to Nepal.

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