

JARS Slide

Luke Series Slide

German Philosopher Harmut Rosa says that there are 2 ways that humans can see the world.

One way to see the world is as a “Point of Aggression”

You are the subject and the world is your object.

When you think about the world as a Point of Aggression you are making it your aim to...

The World as a Point of Aggression

- 1) **Make it visible.**
- 2) **Make it accessible.**
- 3) **Make it manageable.**
- 4) **Make it useful.**

Visible-

grow our knowledge of what is there- Science (telescopes/microscopes)

Accessible-

Rockets, satellites, microtechnology for the body, Archaeology to access the past

Manageable-

Electric light to manage the night, airplanes to manage the sky/distance, ships to manage the sea, medicine to manage the body, HVACs to manage hot & cold temperatures

Useful-

Making the world serve us. Always improving things for us. Rosa relates this to the field of politics & technology- always promising to “make your life better” without really asking “at what cost?”- more jobs, better pay, more affordable housing- you can do things faster, more accurately, with greater ease.

In other words- to see the world as a point of aggression is to see the world through the lens of control.

I WILL CONTROL THE WORLD.

...and its not that seeing the world this way is necessarily bad...the problem comes when we ONLY see the world this way. As something to be manipulated...controlled... for our purposes and to make our lives easier.

...and that leads us to the second way to see the world...

not through AGGRESSION, but through RESONANCE.

Resonance isn't seeing the world as SUBJECT to OBJECT...but Subject to Subject. In other words...

Its relational.

The World as a Point of Resonance

- 1) **The world calls.**
- 2) **I respond.**
- 3) **I am transformed.**
- 4) **This process is Uncontrollable.**

In fact- the title of Rosa's book—> “The Uncontrollability of the World”

Unverfügbarkeit

Title Slide- “The Uncontrollability of Following Jesus”- Luke 14:25-35

Today- we're going to look at a very hard thing that Jesus says. Often misunderstood. But even when you understand it correctly- well- its still hard. Because he's calling you to Uncontrollability.

In fact- this is so weird...because its actually Jesus trying to talk you out of following him. kind of.

Luke 14:25-35

25 Now great crowds were traveling with him. So he turned and said to them, 26 “If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters — yes, and even his own life — he cannot be my disciple. 27 Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple.

28 “For which of you, wanting to build a tower, doesn't first sit down and calculate the cost to see if he has enough to complete it? 29 Otherwise, after he has laid the foundation and cannot finish it, all the onlookers will begin to ridicule him, 30 saying, ‘This man started to build and wasn't able to finish.’

31 “Or what king, going to war against another king, will not first sit down and decide if he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him

with twenty thousand? 32 If not, while the other is still far off, he sends a delegation and asks for terms of peace. 33 In the same way, therefore, every one of you who does not renounce all his possessions cannot be my disciple.

34 “Now, salt is good, but if salt should lose its taste, how will it be made salty? 35 It isn’t fit for the soil or for the manure pile; they throw it out. Let anyone who has ears to hear listen.”

1) Jesus is not an object to be controlled...he is a person to be trusted.

v 25

He is thinning out the crowds some of whom are only interested in following him because he can heal, he says interesting things, because there is something about him...and that’s the thing about a crowd. They get to hang around until they see it will cost them something.

v 26 & 33

So he starts by telling them to hate their families. later in the passage he tells them to LEAVE BEHIND all their possessions.

Crazy to think how much trouble I would be in with you guys if I said this to you guys.

...and if you think “oh, well different time and context” not as bad as it sounds...I would tell you- for this audience- might be worse.

Family is EVERYTHING in this society. And the land one owned and could work is all one could pass down to his children. Incredible shame to have no family and to have no inheritance to pass down to your family.

Talk about the verses that precede this in the story Jesus tells about inviting people into a banquet.

All their excuses have to do with their family (**I’M getting Married!**) or (**I’ve got a field...I’ve got new oxen**)

BTW- all 3 of those excuses are also appeals to the law in Deuteronomy about how a man can get of fighting in a war.

So Jesus’ message here isn’t “If you follow me you will hate your family” and its not “If you follow me you can’t own property or have possessions”

The message here is “If you follow me- You can’t control me with excuses. You can’t call in sick, or tell me how busy you are, or give me any sort of list of good things you are doing that keep you from doing the MAIN thing that I’m calling you to.

If you follow me- you will even have to deny yourself.
I am calling to you to follow. I am calling you not to control and manipulation. I am calling you to willingly walk away from controlling your own life...and trust me with it.

This is TOTAL self surrender.

v 27

When Jesus says If you don't bear your own cross and come after me- you cannot be my disciple.

on a cross- you have no control. You are bound hands and feet. Naked. completely vulnerable. no covering. Even the messaging about you would have been uncontrollable. If people saw you crucified- you were assumed to be a criminal. in the wrong. shamed.

Back to 1)

Gift Card- McDonalds vs Kayne Prime

Really what he wants is a blank check

Drivers ED car.

Jesus take the wheel- as long as I get a passenger side brake pedal

Does that describe your relationship to Jesus?

Are you following Jesus expecting only comfort- or a cross?

Are there limits to your obedience to Jesus?

Are you delaying obedience because you are trying to have it all?

Jesus is calling you to resonance. He wants to transform you. You cannot make Jesus a point of aggression. He has to be a person of resonance...which means a relationship with him...being his disciple...requires uncontrollability.

And all of these verses about counting the cost before you follow- they aren't Jesus saying- go do the math- and for some people its better not to follow. Its Jesus saying- YOU SIMPLY WILL NOT BE FOLLOWING ME- if you see me as an object to be controlled. I will only disappoint you...which he did disappoint a lot of people who saw him only as an object to be used in a political takeover. When they saw him die on a cross...they said- "We're out of here."

Back to 1)

The truth is- The world is uncontrollable. And EVERYTHING will disappoint. No matter what approach you take to the world- it will not save you. You are going to die. The world is uncontrollable. LOVE is uncontrollable. So Jesus is not saying- there is a comfortable life...and then there is my life. No- he is saying the only way to resonance...to shalom...to being a part of Jesus making all things new...to conquering

death and finding true justice...is to submit your life to Jesus- to trust him with everything...and the reality that the Scripture presents...and Jesus himself says is nothing you give up is truly gone forever. You get it all back.

2) To follow Jesus in a relationship is to follow him into relational mission.

v 34-35

Salt- interacts with the world- points of resonance- The salt is transformed— diluted... and your eggs are transformed- tasty!

True translation- becomes FOOLISH. If the salt becomes foolish.
Connected to the FOOLISHNESS and shame of NOT counting the cost.

Jesus is saying- if you come to me trying to control and manipulate me...trying to make me say things I'm not saying...and reducing my call to you to something like "life improvement" or "being kind to others"... you will be worthless in the kingdom of God.

Worthless for my mission to love others and bring them into the Kingdom.

The parable just before this- about the banquet...is about people who want to have both...a relationship with Jesus...and be in control.

They hear his call- but say "Wait a minute"...and they are left out of the banquet. That is the salt that has become foolish. You take ALL that JESUS offers- including a cross...or you haven't responded to him AT ALL.

2 things in Jesus relational mission.

2 Peter 3:9

The Lord does not delay his promise, as some understand delay, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish but all to come to repentance.

People looking for Lords will...but often that becomes a selfish thing about self-actualization. Looking to manipulate God.

The Lord tells us his heart...his will...Do you resonate?

Have you resonated with the Great Commission?

Matthew 28:16-20

16 The eleven disciples traveled to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had directed them. 17 When they saw him, they worshiped, but some doubted. 18 Jesus came near and said to them, "All authority has been given to me in heaven

and on earth. 19 Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe everything I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Talk about to all- even the doubters...he's calling the doubters to worship- full sacrifice

Have you resonated with serving the poor?

Jesus said repeatedly throughout the book of Luke that if we don't act on behalf of the poor around us, our faith is not real. Jesus came to set the captive free and relieve the burden of the suffering. If we're not doing that, we can't call ourselves his followers.

In fact, in Luke 16, Jesus described a rich, religious man who had everything right--he believed all the right things, lived by the right morals, was super involved in religion--only he ignored the suffering of the people around him. "It's not my responsibility," he thought. "I didn't steal from them. And I earned everything I have honestly." In one of the most shocking twists in Jesus' story, that religious man ended up in hell; his lack of engagement with the poor the indication that his faith wasn't real.

Proverbs 21:13

13 The one who shuts his ears to the cry of the poor will himself also call out and not be answered.

(Look at that! You pray, and go to church faithfully, but you shut your ears to the poor, and so when you pray it doesn't matter. You've got nothing.)

(You will be cursed by God.)

You say you are a disciple, but have you asked, "How is my life supposed to lift others up and relieve suffering around me?"

Are you thinking about your career only in terms of how it can help you accomplish your goals—the house you want, the vacations you want, the retirement you want--or have you asked how God can use it to lift up others?

For both the Great commission and service of the poor?

Does your life move towards the suffering of others or make excuses to keep yourself from it?

Immigrants (anxious)

The working Poor- economy.

Those who have been pushed out and marginalized.

Finally-

Have you resonated with Jesus' cross bearing through baptism?

To Take up your cross is to put yourself in the place of a criminal.

Guilty.

Luke tells a story of 2 criminals hung next to him. Both of them had a gift...only one took it. One wanted to manipulate and control Jesus to his own ends.

The other took Jesus' name for himself. He's done nothing wrong- then he placed his life in Jesus' hands.

Today you will be with me in paradise.

Jesus in the great commission- baptizing. Taking Jesus name. Identifying with him.

Baptism Sunday on 3/22.

On the APP.