



A SERMON SERIES BASED ON FIRST PETER

PROPERLY MOTIVATED

SERMON NOTES FOR MAY 17, 2020

Scripture: 1 Peter 4:1-2;7-11

- 1. The most foundational skill for disciples is an attitude of sacrifice and service.**
- 2. Such an attitude is characterized by**
 - A. Keeping our eyes (and hearts) open to God's purposes around us**
 - B. Practicing grace and compassion constantly**
 - C. Living in true generosity**
 - D. Using your gifts for others**
 - E. Guarding our tongues**

Sermon Notes and Daily Devotionals for May 18-23

Monday, May 18 Read 1 Peter 4:1-2; 7-11

We've explored the importance of the term "therefore" previously. It demands a response and an evaluation of our worldview. If we are indeed called to live as if the end (and the return of Christ) is imminent, what sorts of things, goals or attitudes need we set aside? _____

Look at sermon notes A-E (and vv.7-11) and ask yourself: what do I need to sacrifice now in order to faithfully pursue this sort of discipleship? Be specific. _____

Tuesday, May 19 Read Psalm 66:8-20

In the midst of crisis and challenge we often turn to God and vow a more dedicated worship and discipleship (vv.13-14). But it is not a purchase or a transaction but a relationship based on remembering who we are and, more importantly, whose we are. Prayerfully

reflect on what sort of discipleship God is shaping for you during this unusual time. What vows or dedications have you made and how will you honor God with them?

Wednesday, May 20 Read Ephesians 1:3-14

Paul's letter to the church at Ephesus is a reminder that we, His Church, are called to be an integral part of God's redemption plan for all of creation (specifically in vv.8-11) rather than passively waiting for the end. In light of our readings this week and all the studies in this series, how do you understand the call to "live for the praise of His glory?" _____



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What specific ways are you being called to be a part of God's plan in the world?

Thursday, May 21 Read John 14:15-27

It's vital to remember that if God calls us to be about His ministry of reconciliation, we are not expected to do it on our own power. The Holy Spirit is given to us to equip, comfort and encourage. Why is keeping God's commandments so central to accessing that power and Presence? _____

Friday, May 22 Read Acts 17:22-31

The idols and temples of Athens represent the human brokenness that tries to tap into the divine and the eternal for our own finite benefit. Yet the very presence of the temple to the unknown god illustrates that making gods in our own image is both unsatisfying and flies in the face of the reality that deep down we know and desire God, our maker. How is God showing Himself to you through Christ and in unexpected ways today? _____

Saturday, May 23 Read Jeremiah 29:4-14

Many are familiar with v.11, but it is vital to remember that Jeremiah is speaking to the people of Israel about the long-term plans God has for all his children. While God and the Spirit are certainly always with us, it borders on blasphemy to assume that the plans God has for us necessarily must line up with the plans we wish for ourselves! How might God be calling you to a broader understanding of your purpose and your ministry? _____
