



STUDY GUIDE

PART ONE: What Jesus meant by “Good News”

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1. When Jesus spoke of life-after-death, why was it so “mind-bending” to the religious leaders?

WHEN _____ COLLIDE, _____
VALUES PRIORITIZE

MARK 12:28-31

One of the teachers of the law came and heard them debating. Noticing that Jesus had given them a good answer, he asked him, “Of all the commandments, which is the most important?” “The most important one,” answered Jesus, “is this: ‘Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’ The second is this: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no commandment greater than these.”

2. Even though Jesus seems to mention two commandments, He speaks singularly - (*There is no commandment greater than these*) What does this teach us?

3. Pastor Andy intentionally spends a great deal of time describing who Peter is. What is the purpose of such detailed set-up?



One of the most powerful details for me, and we see this again and again, is that Jesus chose people who seem very unlikely for the Job. Peter was illiterate, had a very strong personality, etc. Paul was extremely educated but deeply rooted in the corruption of Judaism. Matthew was a hated Tax Collector. Rich, poor, educated, illiterate, short, tall, corrupt, Jesus chooses and can powerfully work through all of us.

MARK 1:14&15

After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. “The time has come,” he said. “The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!”

4. If someone asked you what the GOOD NEWS (big picture) message is, what would you say?

5. According to Peter/Mark, What GOOD NEWS was Jesus proclaiming into Galilee?

THE KINGDOM IS _____ BECAUSE THE _____ IS HERE!
NEAR KING

6. Where is "The Kingdom of God"?

7. From the sermon on the mount through to the final moments in the upper room, two constants in Jesus' messages were:

- a. _____
- b. _____



One of the main reasons I appreciate Pastor Andy is because he is willing to examine how and why we believe. He does his absolute best to get us to go back to the purity (and simplicity) of the original message of Christ and he bravely call out where there are problems in today's thinking. (And he takes a lot of heat for it). Why would we assume that we have it all dialed in perfectly, when in every generation before us, things were added or left out? We should never stop seeking the purity of Jesus' message and checking our presets. We will never get it perfect, will we? But we can get it better, can't we. Remember, even if we may be off-target in some things, Jesus said there really are just two things, (actually one, right?), that we must get right. Love God with all of our heart and love others as ourselves.

ANSWERS:

- 1. They were scholars of Mosaic Law (Old Testament), which did not teach about eternal life. The idea of heaven was new (and strange) to them.
- 2. Both are equal in importance and inseparable.
- 3. The messages in the Bible become so real and are so much easier to grasp when we get acquainted with the men who are behind them. The original term for the gospels was "memoirs of the apostles", rather the "Books of the Bible".
- 4. Personal answer.
- 5. The time has come and the kingdom of God is near.
- 6. In the heart and conscience of those who believe in and follow God through Jesus (the Holy Spirit/ Inner Voice)
- 7. a. It was different than what His listeners believed
 - b. It was difficult for many to accept