

You Can Begin Again

When Jesus' Mission Becomes Your Mission

Pastor Derwin L. Gray – October 8, 2017

1. Open in prayer:

“Abba, give us eyes to see and experience Jesus and His redemptive work. Holy Spirit, give us the faith and courage to join Him in His mission. May His mission be our mission. Amen.”

2. Read Isaiah 61:1-2, 58:6, and Luke 4:16-18.

- Who Is Jesus? Jesus is the Messiah, the world's Savior.
 - o “Within the context of Isaiah, this indicates that Jesus is claiming to be the Messiah (Isa 11; compare Isa 7:10–25; 9:1–7) and the Suffering Servant (Isa 42:1–9; 49:1–12; 50:4–11; and Isa 52:13–53:12) (Barry, J. D., Mangum, D., Brown, D. R., Heiser, M. S., Custis, M., Ritzema, E., ... Bomar, D. (2012, 2016). *Faithlife Study Bible* (Lk 4:17). Bellingham, WA: Lexham Press.)
- Why is this important?

3. Read Luke 4:18b -21 and Galatians 3:8.

- What is Jesus' Mission?
 - o To preach the Good News
 - The Gospel or Good News is that Jesus is the true King, and through His sinless life on behalf of humanity, His atoning death on behalf of humanity, His resurrection from the dead on behalf of humanity, and the sending of the Holy Spirit, all who have faith in Him are adopted into God the Abba's multiethnic family that God promised Abraham (Gen 12:1-3). This new family is called the church, the people of God.
 - Why is it important to frame the Gospel this way?
 - o Jesus preached the Gospel to the poor. Jesus preached to financially poor and rich people. Throughout history, poor people have been taken advantage of because of their lack of power. The reality is that every human is “poor” as in being spiritually bankrupt.
 - o Jesus preached to the captives. Everyone is held captive to sin, death, and evil.
 - o Jesus preached and healed the physically blind and spiritually blind. The Gospel gives us spiritual eyes to see.
 - o Jesus preached to the oppressed. Everyone born is under demonic oppression and Jesus comes to set us free and fill us with His Spirit.
 - Discuss how you were poor, a captive, blind and oppressed before Jesus rescued you.
 - o Jesus proclaimed the Year of Jubilee. Jesus identifies Himself as the bearer of Good News to the poor and evokes imagery reminiscent of the Year of Jubilee—an observance occurring every 50 years in which debt was forgiven and property restored (Lev 25). (Barry, J. D., Mangum, D., Brown, D. R., Heiser, M. S., Custis, M., Ritzema, E., ... Bomar, D. (2012, 2016). *Faithlife Study Bible* (Lk 4:17).

4. Read Luke 4:22-23. Why were the Jewish people angry at Jesus?

- Note: 4:24 “no prophet is accepted in his own hometown” To illustrate this remark, Jesus proceeds to cite two stories in which OT prophets aided Gentiles (non-Jews) rather than Israelites (vv. 25–27). Jesus contrasts the faith of two Gentiles (the widow of Zarephath and Naaman the Syrian) with the unbelief of the Nazarenes. In response to the Gentiles’ faith, God sent His prophets to meet their needs. The people of Nazareth, however, will not receive such provision because of their unbelief. (Barry, J. D., Mangum, D., Brown, D. R., Heiser, M. S., Custis, M., Ritzema, E., ... Bomar, D. (2012, 2016). *Faithlife Study Bible (Lk 4:24)*. Bellingham, WA: Lexham Press.)

- Scholar RJ Utley said, “God’s universal love toward the Gentiles was the source of rage of these nationalistic Jews.”

- o Note: Many Jews wanted a nationalistic savior, not a Savior of all of humanity. They wanted a Messiah who would obliterate the Gentile Romans, not save them.

- o Note: “What angered the people was the apparent compliment that Jesus paid to Gentiles. The Jews were so sure that they were God’s people that they utterly despised all others. They believed that ‘God had created the Gentiles to be fuel for the fires of hell.’ And here was this young Jesus, whom they all knew, preaching as if the Gentiles were specially favoured by God. It was beginning to dawn upon them that there were things in this new message the like of which they had never dreamed.” (Barclay, W. (Ed.). (1975). *The Gospel of Luke* (p. 48). Philadelphia, PA: The Westminster John Knox Press.)

- o Discuss the significance of Luke 4:22-23 and why TC is a multiethnic church.

- Read Galatians 3:8.

5. Pastor Derwin said, “Your mission is Jesus’ mission. Will you accept the responsibility?”

- Your mission is Jesus’ mission because you are the Body of Christ. We are to preach the gospel to the poor, captive, blind, and oppressed of all ethnicities! Let’s GO!

Soul-tattoo: Plug into the TC community and live on mission.