

11- The Story Telling Servant Mark 4:1-2; 10-13

A story...a parable...I love a good story, whether told around a kitchen table over some hot chocolate, around a campfire that has burned low till it is now just glowing embers. A good story and a good story teller are captivating. It can also be a great way to convey a deeper truth to someone about spiritual matters.

How do you share God's plan for humanity with a culture who has no prior knowledge of Biblical truths? On any day the mission field is filled with a variety of methods.. One of the most effective is storytelling.

I- The Storytelling Servant: Mark 4:1-2

And he began again to teach by the sea side: and there was gathered unto him a great multitude, so that he entered into a ship, and sat in the sea; and the whole multitude was by the sea on the land. 2 And he taught them many things by parables, and said unto them in his doctrine,

Jesus, the Servant as portrayed by Mark, was a master storyteller. He used the common things of the day to apply spiritual truths that resonated into the depth of the heart and souls of His hearers.

Job 27:1 Moreover Job continued his parable, and said... The prophets used this type of teaching.

II- Purpose of Parables: Mark 4:10-12

Mark 4:10-12 And when he was alone, they that were about him with the twelve asked of him the parable. 11 And he said unto them, Unto you it is given to know the mystery of the kingdom of God: but unto them that are without, all these things are done in parables: 12 That seeing they may see, and not perceive; and hearing they may hear, and not understand; lest at any time they should be converted, and their sins should be forgiven them.

Jesus told the parable of the sower sowing seed that we will look at next time. Notice what took place next. Wuest renders verse 10 *And as soon as He was alone, those about Him, with His disciples, went to asking Him concerning the parables.* Why so quickly? Most speculate they did not want others to know they did not understand. The purpose of the parable was to help those who would understand to see. It also works to prevent those who refused to understand and see from doing so.

III- Telling HIStory:

Acts 1:8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

No this is not a misprint, or a misspelling. History is simply HIS story. We need to be busy as Servants who are storytellers telling the story of God and Christ. We are all called to be story telling servants.

I want us to notice one such event that took place on the day of Pentecost, 50 days after Jesus resurrection.

Acts 2:14 But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, Ye men of Judaea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken to my words:

Acts 2:22 Ye men of Israel, hear these words; Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know: 23 Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain: 24 Whom God hath raised up, having loosed the pains of death: because it was not possible that he should be holden of it.

Acts 2:29 Men and brethren, let me freely speak unto you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his sepulchre is with us unto this day. 30 Therefore being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him, that of the fruit of his loins, according to the flesh, he would raise up Christ to sit on his throne; 31 He seeing this before spake of the resurrection of Christ, that his soul was not left in hell, neither his flesh did see corruption. 32 This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses.

IV- Telling Your Story:

Psalms 66:16 Come and hear, all ye that fear God, and I will declare what he hath done for my soul.

1 Peter 3:15 But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:

Have you told your story to others, to family, friends, coworkers? Have you spend a little time bagging on Jesus and tell what He had done for you? If not, why not?