

Legacy...

Let's talk about legacy. The word is defined this way... "anything handed down from the past, as from an ancestor or predecessor."

I have an observation to make... the next generation is waiting for us to "hand some things down" to them, not pass along what we learned from the previous generation before us! What might be helpful? Lessons we've learned from mistakes we've made; not tradition or the "good old days" mentality, but real life stuff and how we have changed through it all.

At this stage in your life, you should be asking yourself these two questions...

1. What do you want to be remembered for?
2. What legacy do you want to leave with the next generation?

Read 1 Corinthians 1:26-31
Read Luke 6:12-16

We are exploring the 12 disciples that Jesus called to be with Him and to go into the world for Him. Here are two disciples who were nearly anonymous and almost insignificant to the overall good news story; James, son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot.



Encouraging quote...

"It's not about WHAT you do; it's about WHY you do WHAT you do as a disciple of Jesus and WHO you do it for! Soli Deo Gloria is living for the audience of one. It's doing the right thing for the right reason. It's living for the applause of nail-scarred hands." Mark Batterson, from the book entitled, Not Safe.

One of the 5 truths of the protestant reformation... Soli Deo Gloria - for the glory of God alone!

Our sole purpose in life is to bring God glory.

James son of Alphaeus... possible brother to Matthew; possible missionary to Egypt; no record of official death. Simon the Zealot... possible part of the political party known as the zealots; missionary to somewhere; death unknown.

From the website GotQuestions.org... “The Zealots were members of a first-century political movement among Judean Jews who sought to overthrow the occupying Roman government. According to the Jewish historian Josephus, three main Jewish groups existed at the time of Christ—the Pharisees, the Sadducees, and the Essenes. He also mentions a fourth group called the Zealots who were founded by Judas of Galilee and Zadok the Pharisee. Of importance in New Testament history, the Zealots led a rebellion when Rome introduced imperial cult worship. The Zealots successfully overtook Jerusalem, but their revolt was ultimately unsuccessful. In A.D. 70, the Romans destroyed the city of Jerusalem and the temple. A remnant of the Zealots then took refuge in Masada. Because of their often-violent tactics, the Zealots have been called some of the world’s first terrorists. (not all Zealots were violent) Jesus chose Simon the Zealot, a man who likely desired to forcibly remove the Roman government, and He also chose Matthew, a tax collector working for the Roman government. Both Simon and Matthew, though natural enemies, were part of the Twelve. What a beautiful illustration of the peace and unity and transformation Jesus brings! Today, God (Jesus) still brings healing and changes lives.”

For reflection: As we study the original 12 disciples, what are you discovering about being a disciple of Jesus, and making disciples with Jesus?

Here are some things we can learn from James and Simon about being a disciple of Jesus...

1. Disciples are unifiers and peacemakers. They work through their diversity to serve in unity to accomplish the mission of Jesus.
2. Disciples are willing to look weak and foolish in the eyes of the world to introduce people to Jesus.
3. Disciples know WHY they do what they do and WHO they do it for. They seek to be faithful to the mission of Jesus, not expecting or wanting any fanfare, making the name of Jesus famous!

As a disciple of Jesus...

- You are useful and essential to Jesus’ mission.
- God’s Spirit is encouraging you and empowering you to bring Him glory through the words and works of your life.

New sermon series coming in October... “Living with Jesus!”

A 43-day discipleship journey, exploring and growing in the values of being a follower of Jesus, who lives on mission WITH Jesus.

We pray this journey helps promote conversation around what it means to be a follower of Jesus (a disciple), how to live as and help others become disciples, and how to plant them as seeds of the Kingdom. Our hope is to restore to our culture the heart of developing people - the way Jesus did - and to see generations raised up that establish His presence and Kingdom everywhere they go.



Lifestyle Values of Discipleship

The words “Discover, Develop, and Deploy” are just words that help us remember how to BE and MAKE disciples. The “I will...” values under each word are what we see Jesus and the early Church teaching others, as they followed Jesus in the Great Commission (Matthew 28) – to be and go make disciples.

Discover: I will see and hear the potential God sees.

I will listen to the voice of God.

I will adjust to what He reveals.

Develop:

I will model Jesus through life-on-life relationships

I will prepare people to follow, be changed by, and love like Jesus.

Deploy:

I will release disciple-makers to God’s calling in EVERY domain of culture.

I will invest in their Kingdom impact according to God’s design.



World Communion Sunday is Oct. 2, 2022. We will be celebrating the Lord's Supper during our worship services.

1 Corinthians 11:26 (NET)... "For every time you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes."

911 Remembrance Day is observed annually on September 11

I doubt anyone will ever forget where they were on the morning of September 11, 2001, when they heard of the attacks on the twin World Trade Towers in NYC and the Pentagon in Washington. And let us not forget the brave passengers on United Airlines Flight 93, who fought the terrorist. Ultimately, the plane crashed in a field in Shanksville, PA rather than hitting the White House or the Capitol Building, likely destinations. This horrible and tragic day when the Twin Towers fell is etched forever in our memories. So, we will forever mark 911 Remembrance Day on September 11.

Like the attack on Pearl Harbor that brought us into World War II, the 911 attacks led us into a new war... the war on terrorism. It also touched and changed forever, the lives of each and every American.

On the anniversary of 911, we encourage you to spend a few minutes reflecting upon this event, and praying for the victims who died, and their families and friends.

911 History... On the morning of September 11, 2001, nineteen Islamic al-Qaeda militants hijacked four planes. The hijackings occurred from Boston, Newark, and Washington airports. The planes selected were long-distance flights, which would have more fuel in the tanks. One plane each hit the north and south towers of the World Trade Center in New York City. The planes and engulfing firestorm ultimately brought down both towers. A number of other buildings were also damaged or destroyed. Most notably was the Marriott hotel, which was also destroyed. A third plane hit the Pentagon in Washington, DC. The fourth hijacked plane ultimately crashed in a field in Shanksville, PA. Passengers on the plane learned of the fate of the other planes and unsuccessfully attempted to take back control of the plane from the suicidal the hijackers. Everyone aboard died. In total, thousands were killed.

911 Deaths... Total Victim: 2977; Victims in the twin towers: 2606; Pentagon victims: 125; 4th plane, crashed in PA: 40. Deaths included Americans as well as citizens from many other countries.