



SERMON REFLECTION QUESTIONS for Sunday, November 19, 2023

Series: Tell Me a Story

Sermon Title: "Passing the Baton: Investing in the Next Generation"

Pastor: Pastor Adrian De Visser from Jithu Sevena in Sri Lanka

Primary Texts: John 1:14, 2 Timothy 2: 1-7

Theme/concept:

As the people of God we are to share the Gospel with those around us. We are to be involved in Global Outreach, sharing the Gospel with unreached people groups around the world. As followers of Jesus, we are also to follow in His footsteps, discipling others for kingdom impact. The apostle Paul modeled this through Timothy, Silas and many others. We are to invest in the next generation, motivated by Christ's love.

Icebreaker (for groups) :

Share about a time when someone mentored you, investing in your life. How did they make a difference?

Reflections on the Sermon / Interview:

What resonated with you about being purposeful in discipling others, "passing the baton" to the next generation?

Scripture Passage:

John 1:14 (NIV)

¹⁴The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

2 Timothy 2:1-7

You then, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. ² And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others. ³ Join with me in suffering, like a good soldier of Christ Jesus. ⁴ No one serving as a soldier gets entangled in civilian affairs, but rather tries to please his commanding officer. ⁵ Similarly, anyone who competes as an athlete does not receive the victor's crown except by competing according to the rules. ⁶ The hardworking farmer should be the first to receive a share of the crops. ⁷ Reflect on what I am saying, for the Lord will give you insight into all this.

Reviewing the Scripture:

1. In John 1:14 what did the disciple John witness personally about Jesus? What characteristics and qualities did Jesus manifest while dwelling among mankind?
2. In 2 Timothy 2:1-2 Paul gave instructions to young Timothy. What was he encouraged to do with his training?
3. According to verse 3 and 4 how is Timothy to endure hardship?
4. In his letter in verses 5 and 6 Paul wrote of athletes and hard-working farmers. How can we apply these examples to passing on our faith and in the discipling of others?
5. Refer to Deuteronomy 6:4-9, the Hebrew Shema. What are we to do in our communities to wholeheartedly teach and disciple those around us?

Going Deeper:

1. Refer to Matthew 28:19-20, the "Great Commission". Summarize Jesus' words and instructions to his disciples.
2. What does it mean to be purposeful in the sharing of our faith today, here in our local community? If you feel comfortable, ask your small group to pray specifically for you in this regard.
3. What does it mean for you to persevere in your faith? Do you have specific examples of being strong that you can share in a mentoring relationship?
4. Investing in rich relationships, relating patiently, and wisely shaping young perspectives are several aspects of mentoring someone. What might be some other ways to lead in discipleship? Consider praying faithfully for opportunities to invest in the lives around you in your own sphere of influence.

Prayer:

Dear Heavenly Father,

Thank you for sending Jesus, Your Son, to be our Savior and Lord. We ask for your continued guidance in our lives as we share our faith with others. We want to remain strong and purposeful as we invest in the next generation of believers. We desire to be motivated by Christ's love. Grant us perseverance and wisdom, Lord, to impact the community around us.

We love you, Lord.

In Jesus' name we pray,

Amen.

Personal Reflection:

Continue to write your own story of faith, as outlined in our pastors' previous sermon notes.