

SERMON OUTLINE John 4:31-42

The Supernatural Nourishment of Obedience

SCENE ONE: SUPERNATURAL FOOD FOR EVANGELISM (31-38)

God Graciously Gives

Supernatural

Nourishment

Through Obedience

To His Commands

SCENE TWO: THE SAVIOR OF THE WHOLE WORLD (39-42)

SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

MAIN POINT

Our text for this morning has two scenes. The main point of the first is that there is supernatural nourishment in Christian evangelistic obedience. And the main point of the second is that Jesus is the Savior of the whole world, not just the Jews. Combined, we see the big idea of the passage: Followers of Jesus must share the gospel to the very ends of the earth in the power God provides.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. The woman at the well didn't understand "living water" and the disciples didn't understand the food Jesus had. Can you think of a time you completely misunderstood Jesus' words?
2. Have you ever thought that it would have been easier to follow Jesus if you had walked with Him as His first disciples did? Have you ever laughed at the disciples' ignorance, imagining yourself as being quicker to understand?
3. Have you ever experienced the supernatural nourishment of obedience? If so, is it usually tied to a specific area of obedience?
4. Which clause in this sentence stands out the most: (1) God graciously gives (2) supernatural (3) nourishment (4) through obedience (5) to His commands.
5. Is it easy for you to believe that there are people all around you who will believe in the gospel if you will share it with them?
6. Have you ever been with someone when they first trusted in Jesus? Were you the first person to share it with them?
7. What is the biggest gap you've ever heard of between the time someone first heard the gospel and when they first believed it? What's the shortest? How long was it for you?
8. Have you ever experienced the unique joy of being a part of a group of people who together prayed for and shared the gospel with someone who eventually came to trust in Jesus?
9. In what way/s did the sermon help you see the greatness of God?

AREAS OF APPLICATION

10. Make a list of two or three people who you would like to see trust in Jesus. Share that list with a few friends (or your DG). Begin praying together for those people. Look for ways to work together to share the gospel with them.
11. Determine to obey in some specific way this week that you don't think you have the strength or energy to do.
12. Read through John's entire Gospel to keep the larger context in mind.
13. Share the gospel with one person you couldn't have anticipated crossing paths with, remembering that the harvest is white.
14. What is one specific thing you mean to do differently in the power of the Spirit as a result of the things you saw or heard in this text or sermon?

PRAYER POINTS

15. Adoration. Praise God for being merciful and gracious. Praise God for being entirely and perfectly sufficient. Praise God for being patient and kind. Praise God for being love. Praise God for being perfect in every way.
16. Confess. Confess any sin of evangelistic apathy. Confess any sin of trying to obey God in your own strength. Confess any sin of not sharing the joy of sowing and reaping evangelistic fruit. Confess any doubt that God can save someone.
17. Thanksgiving. Thank God for those who have recently come to faith at Grace. Thank God for those who have been walking faithfully for some time. Thank God for His saving and nourishing grace. Thank God for John's Gospel.
18. Supplication. Pray specifically for the non-Christians in your life. Ask God to allow them to drink living-water and eat supernatural bread. Ask God to help Grace Church do a better job of sharing in the joy of evangelistic sowing and harvesting.