

Going Deeper

The Collective Church Weekly Devotions

September 7, 2021 - Dylan Cochran – Living a Bold Life for Jesus Christ



I love that God invites us into and asks for us to participate in his bold plans! Have you ever found yourself nudged by Holy Spirit and acted upon it, thus activated in a way only God could orchestrate for your life and the life of others? Glory to God. Taking action when nudged by Holy Spirit is bold! But there are other ways that God asks us to be a part of his plan. Loving people every day, even the people you don't agree with is bold! Focusing on God and meditating on Him and the Word is bold! In today's sermon, Dylan reminds us that God asks us to be bold for him. It starts with this passage from Matthew:

You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot. You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

- Matthew 5:13-16

Who? Jesus/God/Holy Spirit

If you want to be bold, you need to know God. God knows every hair on our head and every tear we cry. He knows so much more than we do and has plans for us. Good plans! We (you and I) need to trust Him fully and allow ourselves to surrender to him. He is our good, good Father and he wants nothing but the full potential of our lives for us. He has a plan for us that is more than anything we can even imagine. His plan for us is woven into the fabric of His ultimate plan from the beginning; the coming of His Kingdom!

How? Love People

It's simple; love God and love people. Don't be selfish; be humble. Jesus said these two commands are above all others. I'm going to point back to the earlier point, we need to know and trust God. If he says that these are the two most important things for us to do, we need to listen and submit and do it! Love is the opposite of evil in so many ways. God has designed the universe to flourish with love. Love is the "secret sauce" that God hasn't kept secret!

So why be bold for God?

We are the salt of the earth! We are the lights in the world! We have been given a mission from our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. We are to live our lives in a bold way for him, that others may see Him through our fruits. God wants all of his children to know and love him, and he allows us to participate in that amazing plan. Let others see how you live life, how you love God and other people, and ultimately how you glorify God in all that you step foot to.

Application Questions:

1. Do you know God? Do you really know him and trust him fully? If you don't know him, or you just want to know him more (that should be all of us), use one of the resources he's given us; The Holy Bible, and get to know him! God gives us his character traits in Exodus 34:6-7. Start there, but don't stop!

2. What is one thing that you will start doing today that you can add to your life that will move you closer to living a bold life for Jesus? Sometimes we need to add something small to our lives in order to make big changes.
3. What is one thing that you should remove from your life? Is there something in your life that is making it hard for you to have a close and intimate relationship with God? This week, pray that you identify and move forward in removing that obstacle in your life. God wants you, his son or daughter, to know him fully.

Joe