

Changing the Conversation

Date: Sunday, July 29, 2018

Message by: Desiree Bland

I. Welcome & Intro

- A. Intro
- B. Let us pray...that God will help us to see Him today.
- C. Went with the student ministry team to Honduras. God did beautiful things to grow the students and I had anticipated a great time to get away and hear His voice.
- D. I actually got frustrated because the road as different.
- E. He teaches in different ways then we expect.
- F. If you ever taken care of children you are very aware you have to be on your toes.
- G. This is the same way he is always sleeping in truth once our hearts have opened up to receive he is very stealth like. He has the exact moment exact words and exact timing.
- H. Have you ever heard of Jesus being stealth like why believe he would probably make me greatest special ops person ever and he is because only he knows how to change the heart.
- I. He slips into moments that we don't expect Him to in a way we can't resist being sucked in by the truth.

Today we are going to turn to Luke 24. Please turn with me there.

II. God is stealth like and slips into the moments we think aren't helpful to us.

- A. Remember His thoughts are not our thoughts.

- **Isaiah 55:8-9**

- B. Remember God in Genesis showed up to save Israel during a drought through Joseph's betrayal by his brothers.
 - C. God showed up to take over city through the prostitute Rahab in Joshua and her life change leads to the lineage of Jesus Matthew 1:5.
 - D. God showed up to save us all by the crucifixion of His son.
 - E. He sends His glory and His blessings at times in unrecognizable ways until we look back.

- F. It's like He slips in when we least expect it.
- G. So let's look in to Luke 24:13-16 and see how he slips in to speak to His disciples and us today about his truth to change the conversation.

- **Luke 24:13-16**

- A. (v16) It said their eyes prevented them from recognizing Him.
- B. They had no idea he was with them and that he was slipping in to help them seek the truth.
- C. The truth they had already seen and was already present with them and they could not see.
- D. Sometimes it is not just my natural eyes but my spiritual eyes are lacking. Sometimes I approach things with my perspective not His.
- E. Leaving me completely blind to what is really happening.
- F. See this is what was happening at the disciples they were wrestling back-and-forth with the truth and their perspective of what had happened instead of just trusting in what Jesus had already expanded on when he was with them.
- G. Sometimes we ask God for an answer on something and he tells us I have already spoken it's in my word you already receded in prayer you simply now just have to act in open your eyes to see.
- H. We will never see unless we use a kingdom lens because we have different perspectives on things due to our limited perspective as a creation not the creator.
- I. What areas in our life are we wrestling and wanting truth to be revealed? If you want the truth He will draw near and reveal it to you.

- **Matthew 7:7**

III. **Jesus uses the undesired moments to stir our pursuit of Him.**

- A. Chaos leads us into seeking and receiving peace.
- B. Sorrow teaches us how to have great strength
 - My heart goes out to those who have experience great sorrow whether it's through the loss of job, illness, divorce or the lost of family. No one can ever really fully understand as every situation is different. Really it is very hard for someone to understand when you have a family member facing a life-threatening illness for years and the taxation it takes on you.

But I must say experiencing this with my mom now has created even greater strength.

- When in Honduras I got a call at 3 AM in the morning from my husband talking to about he wasn't sure my mom was going to make it. So I had to call my stepfather who is not a Christian and is very vocal about disagreeing with my beliefs so I had to call my father he's not a Christian and is very vocal about disagreeing with my believe and had to provide him comfort. Had to find myself being strong to face anger and great sorrow. I had to be a voice for truth, love and comfort. Even though I had my own undesirable moments to deal with.

- C. Typically we do not understand why God chooses undesirable moments until we have returned from the complete journey.
- D. Here is Clepos and Simon we're wrestling over the undesirable last few days where they are thought to be Messiah, Jesus was crucified. They are struggling because they did not get to see His resurrection to know he was the true Messiah and here they were walking along the road with him thinking this man was unaware. Then Jesus proceeds to speak to them on the Scriptures about the Messiah.

- **Luke 24:25 -27**

- E. This is where he changes the conversation of the doubt, suffering, and undesirable experiences to refocus what's really happening here. Without these things he would not have entered in to glory.
- F. Because of the wetting of their appetite for truth they then invite Jesus to come with them to their destinations and have a meal.
- G. It's amazing how God will take brokenness to feed us with his presence and his character.
- H. This same unstable state of brokenness allowed my stepfather for the first time in 21 years to receive encouraging words about God's love and comfort.
- I. Here Clephos and Simon brokenness allowed them to have an urgency to continue the pursuit of truth in (v 28-30). It says

- **Luke 24:28-30**

- J. Their invitation allowed for Jesus to stealthily slip in to get what was being revealed.
- K. Her he sneaks it in... (verse 30-31)

- **Luke 24:30-31**

- L. They gave him what they had.
- M. He blessed it.
- N. He allowed it to be broken so
- O. It could be given out...

IV. **When brokenness is offered up God can enter in with his glory.**

- A. This week I got to sit with one of my dear friends who just came back from a missions trip. They came back exhausted and with your eyes open about the current state of your heart and their lack of desire to serve others and how it felt more like a requirement versus a joy.
- B. Here we talked about what serving looks like throughout the Bible.
- C. Serving is taking what you have and be willing to be broken so God can enter in with is Glory.
- D. Jesus is here at the table with the disciples once again demonstrating the fulfillment of the Law and the Prophets. He is showing us our call to love God first and then loving others as taught in Matthew.

- **Matthew 22:37-40**

- E. We must offering what we have to God first...this is worship. Sometimes what we have though is not what we want to give.
- F. Then God takes what we have blesses it and uses it to help others.
- G. After the meal they got they were with Jesus.
- H. Here was the turning point of the conversation. Loving God is not complete without loving others. Everything hangs on it and if we want to worship God and experience His glory we must understand we have to offer what we have to Him so He can bless it and make it into something.
- I. It's time for us to change the conversation about serving. Serving doesn't always look glorious. But GLORY always doesn't look like glory when it is coming. Serving is not to be about how it best benefits me or a religious checkmark. Or I have to do to what God told me to do.
- J. No serving one another in love is a privilege because it is inviting the Lord to show me and other's His glory.
- K. Sometimes we don't get it till after we have walked out serving, tried, cried or experience hurt do we see...it was Him all along.
- L. You don't get it when you're in it.
- M. Memory is more enjoyable than our experience.

- Family vacation and pictures.

- N. We need to remind ourselves experience glory takes a road of resurrection which is a round trip.
- O. There is a road of going and a road of coming back.
- P. Sometimes we don't get it on the setting out on the journey, but eventually in the pursuit we get it in the return trip just as the disciples. Check out verse 33-35

- **Luke 24: 33-35**

V. Jesus gives us space between the reveal of the truth and the release to allow for revelation to renew us.

- A. The disciples had the truth revealed to them but they were waiting on the release to do what's next to build the kingdom.
- B. The space between reveal and release can cause doubt, death, or growth.
- C. This is where we can grow in our faith.
- D. For example....
 - a. When you pray for patience it is dressed as a teenager.
 - b. When you pray for finances something happens to your finances that you have to learn how to budget your life.
 - c. When God reveals an amazing promise in your life and it never seems to show up.
- E. See once the disciples learned that the conversation needed to change about their circumstances as being offered up to God as worship it changed their journey.
- F. Now instead of being hopeless in the moment they became full of hope because they had offered it to God and they were ready to serve others in love, because God first loved them.
- G. So they went back to Jerusalem.
- H. Where is God asking you to change the conversation about your circumstances so you can worship Him and allow his glory to enter through you to serve others with His all sufficient power.

Let us pray...