

“Scared Straight”

Matthew 5:13-16

Theme: Making a Completely Selfless Response to our Master’s Words

Introduction: How are you doing with David Platt’s book: “Radical”?

- “Scared Straight!”
- “Let it Happen!”
- The Premise of the Book

Should the words of Christ scare us?

I. Our Tendencies in Today’s Church

- A. We tend to see ourselves as free and not _____.
- B. We tend to see Jesus as a _____ and mild softy.
- C. We tend to _____ our non-compliance with our hermeneutics.
 1. The Epistles are for the Church Age.
 2. The Book of Acts is for church history.
 3. The Gospels are for the Kingdom.

But we must ask a few questions....

- ✓ Does Christ speak differently to 21st Century followers?
- ✓ Isn’t it the level of commitment that identifies a follower of Christ?
- ✓ Isn’t it the level of commitment that Christ demands what we struggle with the most? Luke 14:27-34; Mark 10:42-45
- ✓ Why is Jesus demanding this level of commitment from us?

Anything less is a _____ to the cause of Christ.

Sold-out Disciples are _____ to the cause of Christ.

II. His Teaching in Matthew 5:13-16

- A. What is already true about the followers of Christ?

1. Christ’s followers are the _____ of the earth.

Conclusion: The followers of Christ _____ the message of truth in the world and how they demonstrate this truth impacts its validity to the lost.

2. Christ's followers are the _____ of the world.

Conclusion: The followers of Christ _____ forth the message of truth to the world but the world cannot see truth if it remains covered.

B. What is clearly commanded for the followers of Christ?

1. The Imperative: "*Let your light shine*"

2. The Explanation:

a. "*See your good deeds*"

"agathos": good in the sense of morally upright

- "Agathos" should be increasing in a maturing Christian.
- "Agathos" brings pleasure to the One we love.
- "Agathos" give credibility to our testimony.
- "Agathos" rarely compels the lost to follow Christ.

"kalos": good in the sense doing good things

- "Kalos" is what Jesus did
- "Kalos" is a platform for the Gospel
- "Kalos" doesn't like everything but demands a Christ-response
- You cannot be like Jesus without "Kalos"

b. "*Praise your Father in heaven*"

Application: As a follower of Christ you should....

1. Intentionally _____ moral integrity.

2. Sacrificially _____ every day like Jesus Christ for the purpose of modeling "kalos" in your world.

It's what the Master demands.

It might be scary.

But it is not Radical.