

MSG: THE SECRET TO LIVING

SZN 2: LIVING LIKE JESUS

Scripture: MARK 4:21-25, ACTS 2:1-4

Mark 4:21-25 MSG

“Jesus went on: “Does anyone bring a lamp home and put it under a bucket or beneath the bed? Don’t you put it up on a table or on the mantel? We’re not keeping secrets, we’re telling them; we’re not hiding things, we’re bringing them out into the open. “Are you listening to this? Really listening? “Listen carefully to what I am saying—and be wary of the shrewd advice that tells you how to get ahead in the world on your own. Giving, not getting, is the way. Generosity begets generosity. Stinginess impoverishes.””

Acts 2:1-4 MSG

“When the Feast of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Without warning there was a sound like a strong wind, gale force—no one could tell where it came from. It filled the whole building. Then, like a wildfire, the Holy Spirit spread through their ranks, and they started speaking in a number of different languages as the Spirit prompted them.”

STORY: STINGY CLOTHES

What does it truly mean to live Like Jesus. Truly exist. Act. Walk. Think. Talk. Believe. Relate. Live in the fullness of the power of God. Live Like Jesus. Everyday we are bombarded with a view of the world that sells the lies of satisfaction, get-rich quick schemes, Hustles and corporate dreams of success. The American dream of esteem, wealth, decadence and comfort only to meet with the somber and cold hard truth that it is not a dream but rather a Nightmare. A nightmare that leaves us Stressed out, drugged out, fractured relationships, mentally broken and spiritually depleted. Are we simply doomed to the minutia of mundanity where polarizing talking-heads run our lives and common civility no longer exist? THERE HAS TO BE ANOTHER WAY! Thankfully, Jesus provides us the with The secret to Living...

1. THE SPIRIT HELPS US LIVE A DEPENDENT LIFE.

PENTECOST/ FESTIVAL OF WEEKS (First fruits), FEAST OF 50th day- Between Passover and First Fruits Offering

MY DEPENDANCE ON THE SPIRIT MAKES ME INDEPENDENT OF WORLDLINESS.

When you depend on the spirit you don’t look, think, act, sound like the World. Selfish. Greed

Jesus warns of “Shrewd Advice to make your own way” “I got it out the mud” “Self-made” “Imma hustler”

This is not the way.

YOU'LL MAKE A MESS MAKING YOU OWN WAY

DEPENDENCE ON THE SPIRT SHOWS HIS STRENGTH NOT MY WEAKNESS.

2. THE SPIRIT BREAKS THE STRONGHOLD STINGINESS OFF OUR LIVES.

John 17:14-19

'I have given them your word and the world has hated them, for they are not of the world any more than I am of the world. My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth. As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly sanctified.

THE SPIRIT, Not the universe, not their energy, Not a vibe, THE HOLY SPIRIT, THIRD PERSON OF THE TRIUNE GOD. HE IS NOT A THING BUT A PERSON. THE PARAKLETOS, THE COUNSELOR, THE HELPER! Can deliver you from stinginess

SANCTIFICATION MAKES YOU GENEROUS.

-SANCTIFICATION EMPOWERS YOU TO GENERATE.

TRUE FREEDOM COMES FROM TRUE SUBMISSION TO THE SPIRIT

-DON'T BUY INTO THE WORLDS IDEAS OF HOW TO GET AHEAD IN THIS LIFE!

-YOU WILL BE DISILLUSIONED, DISAPPOINTED & DISCOURAGE

-Moments of reflection and prayer in the Holy Spirit help recalibrate and gauge, "Am I trippin?"

3. THE SPIRIT HELPS US RECOGNIZE THE NEEDS OF OTHERS.

Acts 2:43-45 MSG

"Everyone around was in awe—all those wonders and signs done through the apostles! And all the believers lived in a wonderful harmony, holding everything in common. They sold whatever they owned and pooled their resources so that each person's need was

met.”

-It's interesting because once Jesus gave us the spirit he was no longer the only one working the miracles but now we the people of the church begin to work those same miracles it went from one person to millions and billions

STORY: LA DISPARITY, ULTRA WEALTHY/ ULTRA POVERTY

OPENNESS TO THE SPIRIT GENERATES AN OPEN LIFE

Jesus tells us the secret of WHAT TO DO but He also shows us HOW TO DO IT, By the spirit.

-Similar to a seed planted in the ground one seed bears immeasurable opportunity to meet so many needs

-He doesn't need you to bear all the fruit to meet every single need in the world he just needs your seed of faith so that from your life can produce a fruitful life that is beneficial and helpful to people that you could never even think of.