

On Eagles' Wings Pt 496

by Don Courville

The sermon emphasizes the importance of recognizing God's work in our lives through the miracles of Christ and the call to faith and action.

Duration: 43:52

Scripture: John 2:1-11, John 4:46 - 5:23, John 5:35, John 5:38, John 5:40, John 5:42, John 5:47, John 15:7

Topics: "Radio Show"

Description

In this sermon, the preacher focuses on John chapter 5 and highlights it as a chapter with a special miracle. He mentions that this is the third special miracle in the book of John, with the first being the turning of water into wine and the second being the healing of the nobleman's son. The preacher emphasizes the importance of seeking and doing the will of God, as Jesus stated that his nourishment came from doing the will of the Father. The sermon also discusses the story of the lame man at the Pool of Bethesda, emphasizing the grace and mercy of God. The preacher concludes by discussing the threefold witness to Christ's deity in this chapter, including the witness of John the Baptist.

Transcript

Starting in John chapter 5, in verse 17. But Jesus answered them, My Father worketh hitherto, and I work. In verse 19.

Then answered Jesus and said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, The Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He seeth the Father do. For what things soever He doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise. For the Father loveth the Son, and showeth Him all things that Himself doeth.

And He will show Him greater works than these, that you may marvel. Then over in verse 30. I can of my own self do nothing.

As I hear, I judge, and my judgment is just, because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me. And then verse 36. But I have greater witness than that of John, for the works which the Father hath given me to finish, the same works that I do, bear witness of me that the Father hath sent me.

Let's pray. Now Father, as we look at Your Word this morning, and we listen as Don prayed, we just pray that it be You working in greater measure amongst us. As we acknowledge that we are nothing, that

without You we can do nothing, as You've said in the Word.

And so we believe You to work this morning in our hearts, through the preaching and teaching of the Word, that we would know that the Lord has spoken to us, that we have truly met together here in the presence of God. I ask Your blessing, Father, upon the assembly. We ask now for the gift of the Holy Spirit that You promised that You would give us to come down upon us.

In the name of Jesus, Amen. I've titled this message, Reaching Forth. I don't know what the word picture is yet.

I just went out and had one more talk with the Lord and He hadn't told me anything yet. So maybe somebody will come up with the word picture. But it's Reaching Forth.

Now we've been going through John and as God gives us different times, we'll just do what He tells us to do. We've had some different messages as the Spirit has given us direction. And actually, I was glad that the Lord kept breaking in and giving us different messages because I didn't have a grasp on this chapter yet.

And so after about a month of meditating on it, probably I guess yesterday, it just sort of all slipped together what this chapter is about. It's a fairly deep chapter. But the deep things of the Lord are revealed to us by the Spirit of God.

And so the thing that we need though is having like Jesus would come along with the crowds and He broke the bread and dispersed it. So we need the Spirit of God to break the Word of God out to us in a way that we can understand it. And what we're going to do, I'm going to take you through the whole chapter rather quickly and break it down for you.

And then we're going to come back and get a couple or three lessons from the chapter. Now, we could get into many lessons, but I think there's one main one here. And there are many very good lessons here, but because of time, we'll just get a couple or three of the lessons.

The chapter that we're talking about is John chapter 5. The first 16 verses is what I've entitled a special miracle. It was a special miracle. And I like the last song that we sang, He Giveth More Grace.

Because you see, this is the third special miracle that has been given in the book of John. The first one was when Jesus turned the water into wine and it blessed the people at the wedding. The second was the healing of the nobleman's son.

And the first one was a teaching of salvation coming through faith. The second one was the teaching of... The first one was that salvation comes by the Word. The second miracle taught us that the healing of the nobleman's son was that salvation is by faith.

But this third one then about the lame man being healed. This is the lame man that was at the pool which is called Bethesda. Bethesda means house of mercy.

There he was there at the house of mercy and had five porches. Five being the number of mercy. God's mercy.

He giveth more grace. The Lord put that song in there. And so salvation is through the Word of God by faith through grace.

This miracle depicts grace. Now, that's the special miracle. And if you remember, Jesus came along and He said to him in verse 6, Will thou be made whole? And then the man told him his problems.

He didn't have anybody to put him in there. And then Jesus said in verse 8, Rise, take up thy bed, and walk. And I've sort of taken the title of this message Reaching Forth.

Reaching Forth. Rise, take up thy bed, and walk. I believe the man had to make an effort to get up after Jesus told him to do that.

But when he made that effort, he did that which was impossible. He arose and walked. Maybe God has a situation in your life that He's wanting you to rise and walk in.

Now, the second section of this book is a special message. What I've titled a special message. And this goes from verse 17 all the way to 47.

And we're going to break this down into three parts so that you can get a grasp on it. Because of the teaching of this passage is basically on the deity of Christ. I think it's good for us to have a grasp on it.

Even though we won't be able to take a lot of time going into details and some of the depths of these things, at least to have a grasp upon this passage or on this passage. Now, the first thing is Christ's threefold equality with the Father, which is verses 17-23. So we'll look at verses 17-23.

And there are three things that Christ was equal with the Father in. If you look at the verses there, verse 17. But Jesus answered them, My Father worketh hitherto, and I work.

And if you remember after Jesus healed the man, the man didn't know who it was. He went and after he found out who it was, he told the Jews that it was Jesus. And then they came after Jesus because He had healed on the Sabbath.

And Jesus had picked a fight with Him on purpose. And so He wanted to have this confrontation with them. And so the healing of the man was the means of doing that.

Now, verses 17-21 talk about Christ's equality with the Father in works. Look at verse 17. But Jesus answered them, My Father worketh hitherto, and I work.

Therefore the Jews sought the Moor to kill Him because He not only had broken the Sabbath, but said also that God was His Father making Himself equal with God. Then entered Jesus and said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, The Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He seeth the Father do. For what things soever He doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise.

For the Father loveth the Son and showeth Him all things that Himself doeth. And He will show Him greater works than these that you may marvel. For as the Father raiseth up the dead and quickneth them, even so the Son quickneth whom He will.

So, you have equality in works 17-21. You go to 22, and He's equal with the Father in judgment. For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son.

But yet you can go over and find verses where the Father does the judging. But here it says Christ does the judging. For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son.

Who's doing the judging? They both are because they're both one. And by the way, this is when we come back and we tie this all together. I hope that we have a greater grasp upon the message of this chapter.

Now, the next thing that He was equal with is verse 23. He was equal with the Father in honor. Equal in works, equal in judgment, equal in honor.

Look at verse 23. That all men should honor the Son, even as they honor the Father. He that honoreth not the Son honoreth not the Father, which hath sent Him.

Okay? So, we have Christ's threefold equality with the Father. Now, the next section is a threefold resurrection that is presented, verses 24-29. Verses 24-27, we have the resurrection of dead sinners.

I believe this is a spiritual resurrection. Let's look at the verses. Verse 24, Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word and believeth on him that sent me hath everlasting life and shall not come into condemnation, but is passed from death unto life.

If you have believed that belief has brought life into your heart and God is saying that there's no more condemnation to you for your sins because they have been judged in Christ on Calvary. But, there'll be a judgment of our works which is another judgment and it's not dealt with here. But we will not have condemnation.

Romans 8, 1-4 talks about that. Then, verse 25, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Jesus said to them, The hour is coming and now is when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God and they that hear shall live. For as the Father hath life in Himself, so hath He given to the Son to have life in Himself, and hath given Him authority to execute judgment also, because He is the Son of Man.

So, we have the resurrection of dead sinners. Ephesians 1-3 would be a verse that you could look up later on, but I want you to notice this one word in these verses. Verse 24, there's the word life.

He's passed from death unto life. He believeth on Him that sent Me, hath everlasting life. And verse 25, Verily, I say unto you, The hour is coming and now is when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God and they that hear shall live.

If you have life within you, He that has a Son has life. You don't have to fear this judgment. You have life.

And verse 26, He talks about again, For as the Father hath life in Himself, so hath He given to the Son to have life in Himself. And so, He that hath the Son has life. The main thing is to make sure that you have Jesus in your heart so that you have life.

Now, we can't go into that much more. We can go into the resurrection a lot deeper, but then there's the resurrection of life. Verses 28-29a.

Let's look at these. Because we're going through 47 verses this morning. And if we get into the deeper teachings, it will take a lot more time.

But there's a message. There's a message. Reaching forth.

What is it that God wants you to grasp this morning for your life, for your walk with Him? Okay, verses 28-29 is the resurrection unto life. This is a future resurrection of believers. Starting in verse 28.

Marvel not at this, for the hour is coming in the which all that are in the graves shall hear His voice, and they shall come forth, they that have done good unto the resurrection of life, and they that have done evil unto the resurrection of damnation. Now, this is a resurrection of believers to life. Doing the good is not in ourself, but that which Christ has produced in our life.

We can't do anything good of ourselves, but that good is of the Lord working. Now, if you want to have a couple more passages to look at, 1 Thessalonians 4, 13-18 gives you the basic passage that where we're at right now, we're expecting a Lord to come. And I believe this is why the church needs to be getting ready in every way possible.

We need to be ready spiritually, we need to be ready physically for what's happening because we don't know the time of the Lord coming. He could come any moment, but if He were to delay, say another year or two, then we need to be ready in every aspect that we can for what's coming. As we were talking about earlier, the Lord may be getting the church ready for the pre-tribulation time.

Many have believed that there's going to be a great harvest of souls come. There's going to be a great awakening or something's going to happen. I personally believe that the Lord's going to come in the midst of a great awakening of the Lord really dealing with people and getting them saved.

And it's going to impact the world. And we just don't know how it's all going to work out. But 1 Thessalonians 4, 13-18 are verses that you need to know.

And verse 16 says, "...the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God and the dead in Christ shall rise first. Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. So shall we ever be with the Lord." And what we're looking for is this catching away, which has been termed the rapture, being caught away.

1 Corinthians 15, 51-58 is another passage that you can write down for that. And then also Revelation 20, 4-6. I might read Revelation 24.

"...And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them. And I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus and for the Word of God." Two things Satan does not like. He does not like a testimony about Jesus and he doesn't like the Word of God.

And we believe that the Word of God has been so mutilated and chopped up and disguised and done away with that I was just... This week we've got a new book we're reading about Tyndale. Tyndale, that was the one, wasn't it? Tyndale. How he gave his life for this book, for the Word of God and how the martyrs suffered for the Word of God that we have.

And in the book of Revelation, it's for the testimony of Jesus and for the Word of God. "...And they worshiped not the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads or in their hands. And they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years, but the rest of the dead lived not until the thousand years were finished." This is the first resurrection.

We just can't get into all of this, but this is what Jesus was referring to back in John chapter 5. Then there's one more resurrection, the third resurrection, the resurrection of damnation, which is 29B. 29B says, "...And they that have done evil unto the resurrection of damnation." This is Revelation 20, 11 through 15. This takes place at the end of the millennium just before the new heavens and the new earth.

And some believe they're going to come up and they're going to be judged. And the degree of their punishment in hell is going to be determined. And we could get into another study on that.

But then there's one more section here, the threefold witness to Christ's deity. This is verses 30 through 47. So we've had the... if I can go back over... we've had the special message with a threefold equality with the Father, a threefold resurrection, and then now a threefold witness to Christ's deity in this chapter.

Remember, we're sort of trying to break it down so you have some kind of little handle on it. But there's a point. There's a message.

The message that Jesus gave to the Pharisees is the message that we need to receive too. Okay, let's look at the threefold witness to Christ's deity. Verses 30 through 47.

First of all, you have the witness of John the Baptist. Verses 30 through 35. Jesus said, I can of my own self do nothing, as I hear I judge, and my judgment is just, because I seek not my own will, but the will of the Father which has sent me.

If I bear witness of myself, my witness is not true. There is another that beareth witness of me, and I know that the witness which he witnesseth of me is true. Ye sent unto John, and he bare witness unto the truth.

But I receive not testimony from man, but these things I say that you might be saved. He was a burning and a shining light, and you were willing for a season to rejoice in His light. I was thinking about this, about John the Baptist.

A burning. He was burning inside and shining outside. Could it be a lot don't have any shine inside because there's nothing burning inside of the Lord? But he was a burning and a shining light, and you were willing for a season to rejoice in His light.

And we'll come back to that verse 35 in a few minutes. Basically, people listened to John the Baptist. They rejoiced.

Now get this. They rejoiced in his ministry. They really liked it.

Boy, this is really great. This is bringing some life in our land. John the Baptist is out there preaching.

They rejoiced in his ministry, but they rejected him and his message. Rejected him and his message. As a nation, he was rejected.

And a lot of people, they might like the razzle and dazzle, but when it gets down to it, what are they going to do with the message? Malachi said, the Lord's messenger in the Lord's message. You are the message of the Lord. As you go through the week, we are the message of the Lord.

What kind of message are we? We are clear-cut message. Now, the second witness, verse 36, this one verse, we had the threefold witness to Christ's deity of John the Baptist. He witnessed of his deity.

And then of Christ's works themselves. Verse 36, But I have greater witness than that of John. There is a greater witness than John.

What was it? For the works which the Father has given me to finish, the same works that I do, bear witness of me that the Father has sent me. So there is the witness of Christ's works. What was the witness

that spoke to Nicodemus? It was this witness.

He came and he said, We see all these miracles that you are doing. We can see this. Then the last witness was the witness of the Father in the Scriptures.

Verse 37-47 37-47 And the Father Himself, which hath sent me, hath borne witness of me. Here is the witness of the Father. You have neither heard His voice at any time nor seen His shape, and you have not His word abiding in you, for whom He has sent, Him you believe not.

Search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life, and they are they which testify of me. And you will not come to me that you might have life. I receive not honor from men, but I know you that you have not the love of God in you.

I am come in my Father's name, and you receive me not. If another shall come in my own name, him you will receive. How can you believe which receive honor, one of another, and seek not the honor that cometh from God only? Do not think that I will accuse you to the Father.

There is one that accuseth you, even Moses, in whom you trust. For had you believed Moses, you would have believed me, for he wrote of me. But if you believe not his writings, how shall you believe my words? Alright, you've never gone through John chapter 5 with a preacher probably that fast to go through a whole chapter, have you? Now, are there some lessons to learn in this chapter? There are a lot of lessons, but I'm just going to give you a couple or three.

The first one, Who healed the lame man? Who healed the lame man? When the lame man went to the Jews, he was going as a testimony of somebody healing him. The answer is in verse 17. Who healed the lame man? God healed that lame man.

These Jews are in a tight spot. Jesus has pushed them up into a corner. And they're going to have to make a decision about who He is.

Because God healed the lame man. God the Father healed the lame man. God the Son healed the lame man.

God the Holy Spirit. Because they always work together. God always works in unity with Himself.

Now, the Bible says that the Sabbath was made for man. And this is the thing that ticked them off. Got them all upset.

He healed on the Sabbath. The Bible says that the Sabbath was made for man. And the Bible says that the carnal mind, Romans 8, 7, is enmity against God.

What kind of mentality did the Pharisees have? Did they have a spiritual mind? Or a carnal mind? Because they were at enmity with God. Were they not? All agreed? Okay. Now, let's go a little bit farther.

Here's the lesson that I see, this first lesson. Now, we're going to cinch down on the knot. The lesson is this.

We need to learn to recognize God in all of our provision. For if we don't, we'll miss out on the true blessing of His lovingkindness. Learn to recognize God in all of your provision.

This is why the Bible says things like this. If riches increase, let not thine heart upon them. They did not recognize God.

Even the man that was healed, I don't know if he ever really got a hold of it, that his provision was directly from God. Withholding is because God withholds. Blessing is because God blesses.

But acknowledging God in everything... I was just talking to somebody yesterday. Who was it? Oh, yeah. I was talking to a man last night on the phone.

And he was saying basically the same thing. I wrote it down even. Because I thought, wow, that's the same thing God is saying on this lesson.

Learning to recognize God in all of your provision. Now here's how you can tell if you are recognizing God in all of your provision. When He provides and you're so happy and everything, but then say if He holds back and you're not happy.

Paul said, I've learned... What? He knew how to abound and he knew how to be abased, thus he had it all put together that God was God in his life. Listen to this chapter. Psalms 107.

I was in Psalms 107 the other day in my devotions. Verses 38-42. I want you to notice something here.

Psalms 107, 38. He blessed them. Talking about Israel.

He blessed them also, so that they are multiplied greatly and suffered not their cattle to decrease. Then look at verse 39. Again, they are diminished and brought low through oppression, affliction, and sorrow.

One verse, they're blessed. The next day, they're brought low. Verse 40.

He poureth contempt upon princes. He causeth them to wander in the wilderness where there is no way. Verse 41.

Yet setteth He the poor on high from affliction and maketh Him families like a flock. The righteous see it and rejoice and all iniquity shall stop her mouth. Now verse 43.

Whoso is wise and will observe these things, even they shall understand the lovingkindness of the Lord. You see, what you had in the lame man being healed was an expression of the lovingkindness of the Lord. Verse 42.

The righteous shall see it. The righteous shall see it. The Pharisees did not see what happened with that lame man because their eyes were off on some nitpicking rule they made for themselves.

Thou shalt not heal on the Sabbath. Well, they probably put it in real quick. You're not supposed to work on the Sabbath.

Even God can't break our rules or we're going to get upset. Is there something you're upset about that God has broken a rule in your life? Now, let's push on a little bit. There's another passage.

You can write it down. Well, let's just go to it. Hosea.

Hosea is right after Daniel. Chapter 14. Hosea 14, 8 and 9. Ephraim shall say, What have I to do any more with idols? I have heard him and observed him.

I am like a green fir tree. From me is thy fruit found. The testimony of Ephraim was they had their eyes focused on God and then when they did that, they let go of all their idols.

They let go of that which was corrupting them and then they said they were fruitful. I am like a green fir tree. From me is thy fruit found.

Who is wise? And he shall understand these things. Here's the same concept of Psalms 107. Who is wise? He shall understand these things.

Prudent, and he shall know them. For the ways of the Lord are right. Has there been a day in your life when God was wrong? Then if you or I murmured, what did that say? That basically is saying I am God of this moment.

I am God of this area. And I'm really upset with God because He moved in to my life on this day in this particular way. Or you get angry.

Or if you worry. Or we get bitter. All of this is expression of something.

And we're coming down to tie it even tighter, this knot on the rope. The second lesson is this. If Christ was equal with the Father and He did nothing of Himself, what does it mean if we do something without checking with the Father? If He was equal with the Father and He did nothing of Himself, what does it mean if we do something without checking with the Father? And here's the lesson.

To act independently of the Father's will is to exercise self-will. Jesus said He did not act independently of the Father thus He did not act in self-will. To act independently of the Father's will is to exercise self-will without a submissive spirit.

Actually, it comes down to this. If you have two wills, you have two gods. And Jesus was telling these Jews that He did not heal that man just on His own will.

But it was the will of the Father and His will working together. Two wills equal two gods. Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus.

The reason Christ is the head of the church is so that there will be only one will. It will be an exercise. Five times Satan said, I will.

I will be like the Most High. I will ascend up and all this. I will.

The higher we go in our own will, the farther the fall. Best to travel low. So if we do have a fall, we'll already be pretty low.

John 4.34 Jesus told the disciples what was the thing that really fed Him. Gave Him His strength, His nourishment. John 4.34 Jesus said unto them, My meat is to do the will of Him that sent Me and to finish His work.

What really drove you this week? Was it the will of God? You got up in the morning. Oh, Father, what is Your will today? Here I am. I'm a blank check.

My life is Yours. My will is surrendered to You. Or it was, dear God, I've got all this to do today and I ask You to bless this and this and this and help me to be successful in all that I do.

Just sign Your name and I'll go. I wonder if a lot of our frustration and failure just doesn't come out to this one point where we're just acting like these Jews did so many times and we get upset when we are being the Lord of our life in a certain area. John 5.19 Then answered Jesus and said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, The Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He seeth the Father do.

Do you see what God's doing in your life? Most of the time, we don't really like too much what He's doing. I talked to some people in another state. A man in another state this week, he called me up and he said they were so happy.

His family was so happy. Everything was going good with them. God was blessing.

They were being used by the Lord. Just reaching people and ministering to people. They said everything's just going great.

And I rejoiced with them because they've had lots of years when things were not going great, but the reason it was going so great with them because the three members of this family at this point were all surrendered to the will of God. And boy, God was just blessing and using them. He just called up to say how happy they were because they were just being used by the Lord and they were surrendered to Him.

And it's just a good testimony. Seeth means to contemplate, to perceive. You know what? That's the same word in 1 Corinthians 13, 12.

For now we see through a glass darkly. And many times we sort of see what God's doing. Boy, my glasses are not too... I sort of see, I just don't understand everything.

And what you don't get clearly just accept by faith because it will come into focus someday. So many times we just have to see it all clearly right now. Now, third thing, in tying this all together, and this is for all of us to take personally.

Third lesson. How we receive the Word of God will reveal how much we are yielded to the Lord. A lot of these other versions that are out is because men could not accept the Word of God and so they wanted to change it.

They wanted to change it. A lot of Christians don't see this, what's going on. But how we receive the Word of God will reveal how much we are yielded to the Lord.

I'll just give you a quick illustration. The reason we have so many children is because one day in the past, God showed us that children were the blessing of the Lord, the inheritance of the Lord, and so we obeyed the Word of God and we were blessed. Because we began to get our lives straightened up on this area, and then that area, and then this area.

Look at John 5, verse 44. I'm going to slip down through here and we're going to get the knot as tight as we can get it. Reaching forth, and you grab a hold of that knot.

I guess maybe that could have been our word picture. I could have brought a rope in, I could have put a knot in there and got it tighter and tighter and tighter. But look at verse 44.

How can ye believe which receive honor one of another? These Jews had themselves in a corner and they couldn't believe God because they were so stuck on looking at each other, honoring one another, respecting one another, and all the other stuff that was going on. How can you believe which receive

honor one from another and seek not the honor that cometh from God only? Wouldn't you rather have God pat you on the back than man? Wouldn't you rather have God someday because you just went through it and you obeyed Him and He will say, Well done. Well done.

You were faithful to My Word. Nobody encouraged you, but you were faithful and it's a well done. Look at verse 35.

By the way, there were two words in verse 44. How can you believe which receive honor one of another and seek not the honor that cometh from God? This means to lay hold of, to grasp, receive, and seek. Same word.

35. Okay? He was a burning and shining light. John the Baptist was a burning and shining light.

And you were willing for a season to rejoice in His light. Sometimes some believers are willing for God to just go so far with them. Then the Lord says, Let's move up on the cross a little higher.

Well, Lord, it's not so comfortable up there. I'd rather stay down here. They were willing for a season to put up with John.

Probably until his preaching began to really convict them. They were willing for a season. Look at verse 40.

And you will not come to Me. Notice will. You will not come to Me.

Look at verse 42. But I know you that you have not the love of God in you. Why didn't they? Because they chose not to have the love of God in them.

They got upset with the loving kindness of God in healing that lame man. They'd never done that man one bit of good all his life. Jesus comes along in one moment, blesses him with health, heals him.

He gets up, walks off. And they were upset. Look at verse 43.

I am come in My Father's name and you receive Me not. They have not. They believe not.

They will not. 42. They have not.

43. They receive Him not. 44.

How can you believe which receive honor one from another and seek not the honor that cometh from God only? They wasn't seeking the honor from God. Are you seeking God's honor? The honor that comes from God. Verse 47, there's another one.

If you believe not His writings, how shall you believe My words? And probably if there's a key, it's in verse 38. And you have not His word abiding in you for whom He has sent Him you believe not. Is there any area in your life of which self-will is in conflict with the Word of God? In the area that you're the Lord of and that you will not let go.

Sometimes we cannot reach forth because we will not let go. I remember a message by Brother Ron Dunn. He has a message on how many times things are like this.

It's letting go and receiving. But we've got to let go before we can receive. And this message to me, this chapter was a lesson on God.

Just a lesson on God. The loving kindness of God. And Jesus being God.

And this is where he brought them to this point. But if you believe not His writings, how shall you believe My words? Verse 38. And you have not His word abiding in you for whom He has sent Him you believe not.

There is a verse, I think it was John 15, somewhere back there. It goes like this. Jesus said, if you continue in My Word, then are you My disciples indeed.

Continue. Let's bow for closing prayer. Father, if there's one thing that You've showed me in this passage, and that is this, no will of my own, but yet there's freedom when I surrender to Your will.

My attitude will be right. My heart will be right. All my expectation will be of You.

And Lord, I think that this morning if there's one thing You wanted to show us, and that is that in letting You be God, we will be so happy like our friends at call. They're so blessed as they were just completely surrendered to Your will and You were using them. They love to reach out to people.

And they were just surrendered in Your will and happy. And we want that too. And we praise You and we worship You.

And if there's something in our hearts You spoke to us this morning, something that we're not willing to let go of, and You just have a good way of putting Your finger on that thing that we're not willing to let go of, just like the young rich ruler. You knew that man was covetous. And when You told him to go sell all that he had and give to the poor, You know how to push the button right in the right spot.

And if You pushed some buttons this morning, Lord, I pray that we would not hang on, but that we would let go and reach forth. And that we would rise and walk with You in greater faith than that we've ever done before. Really it comes down to it, our daily walk is just simply trusting and obeying You.

Just simply believing You in everything. Praying without ceasing and everything giving thanks. And joy in our Lord.

Thank You for this morning, Father. Thank You for the blessing of Your Word. Thank You that my mom and dad and sister could be here.

Thank You for allowing all of us to gather together. And we pray for those that are off traveling and in other places of the country today that You would continue to use them and show them their purpose and be in where they're at. And now as we go into this week, we just look to You this week to be our provision, to be our source of strength, to be our guide, to be surrendered in Your will.

And we thank You for Jesus. How You did send Him to bless us in turning us from our sins. And help us not to be like these Jews so locked in on our own ways that we cut ourselves off from Your blessing.

We'll thank You in Jesus' name. Amen.

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