

“The Father’s business”

Introduction

- Good Christmas and a ‘break’ from the normal
 - **Just celebrated Christmas and the birth of 8 pounds, 6 ounce baby Jesus,**
 - **Sometimes a ‘lull’ after Christmas and before the ‘newness’ of the New Year**
- Focus on something Different this Sunday as it is a unique Sunday in the Life of the Church
 - Sunday after Christmas Day/ Literally called that on the liturgical calendar
 - I’m a ‘Traditionalist’
 - Haha, ‘Far from it, Brent!’
 - Shazam Shirt and Chacos if you could get away with it
 - Biblical Traditionalist, Not ‘Church Traditionalist’
 - Word and Spirit
 - Jesus, not a fan of the ‘Religious System’ or Traditions
 - He did and was something different, Holiness= set apart
 - We see even from a young age he had a different agenda than that of the world or the religious system

Luke 2:41-52

41Every year Jesus’ parents went to Jerusalem for the Festival of the Passover. 42When he was twelve years old, they went up to the festival, according to the custom. 43After the festival was over, while his parents were returning home, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but they were unaware of it. 44Thinking he was in their company, they traveled on for a day. Then they began looking for him among their relatives and friends. 45When they did not find him, they went back to Jerusalem to look for him. 46After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. 47Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his answers. 48When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, “Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have

been anxiously searching for you.”

49“Why were you searching for me?” he asked. “Didn’t you know I had to be in my Father’s house?”

- Jesus as a kid?
- Typical Middle schooler, not obedient, smart Alec
- Jesus is different and there is something else going on here
- KJV “I must be about my Father’s business”
- Very interesting statement
- Come back to this later

50But they did not understand what he was saying to them.

51Then he went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them.

- 5th commandment “Honor your father and your mother”

But his mother treasured all these things in her heart. 52And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.

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John 5:19-21 19Jesus gave them this answer: “Very truly I tell you, the Son can do nothing by himself; he can do only what he sees his Father doing, because whatever the Father does the Son also does. 20For the Father loves the Son and shows him all he does. Yes, and he will show him even greater works than these, so that you will be amazed. 21For just as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, even so the Son gives life to whom he is pleased to give it.

- **Jesus only did what he saw the Father doing**
- **“Doing”**
 - **Present tense**
- **We can therefore deduct that what Jesus did during his earthly ministry is what he saw the Father doing**

- **Preach the Kingdom**
- **Heal sick**
 - **Jesus healed ALL that came to him**
- **cast out demons**
- **Perform miracles= feeding thousands with a few fish and loaves of bread, turning water into wine, walking on water**
- **Trained disciples to do the same**

John 10:37-38

37Do not believe me unless I do the works of my Father. 38But if I do them, even though you do not believe me, believe the works, that you may know and understand that the Father is in me, and I in the Father.”

- **Bold Statement “Do not believe me unless I do the works of my Father”**
- **Church**
 - **Jesus said “You will do greater things” (John 14:12)**
 - **“And these signs will accompany those who believe: In my name they will drive out demons; they will speak in new tongues; they will pick up snakes with their hands; and when they drink deadly poison, it will not hurt them at all; they will place their hands on sick people, and they will get well.””**
 - Mark 16:17-18 NIV**
 - **Already said the things Jesus did= Preach the Kingdom, Heal the sick, Cast out demons, Miracles, Trained Disciples**
 - **You (believers) will do more!**

Next 2 verses:

“After the Lord Jesus had spoken to them, he was taken up into heaven and he sat at the right hand of God. Then the disciples went out and preached everywhere, and the

Lord worked with them and confirmed his word by the signs that accompanied it.”

Mark 16:19-20 NIV

- Time for the Church to make a bold statement= “Don’t believe us unless we are doing the works of Jesus”
 - Successful church w/o Jesus and Holy Spirit= Good music, programs, dynamic speaker, build an organization
- How ?
 - V. 20 “The Lord worked with them and confirmed his word by the signs that accompanied it”
 - Disciples filled with the Holy Spirit (Pentecost), desired it went to the room together and prayed/desired for the Holy Spirit
 - Yearn for the Baptism of the Spirit, eagerly desire the gifts of the Spirit (1 Cor. 14:1)= Things that Jesus did [word of knowledge and wisdom (women at the well “told me everything that I ever did”), faith, healing (sick), miracles (loaves, walking on water, water to wine), prophecy, distinguishing spirits (casting out demons), tongues]
- Barrier
 - Offense
 - Jesus couldn’t do any great miracles in his hometown because “they took offense at him”
 - Sometimes a specific ministry/church is defined/built around by what they are ‘offended’ at instead of the actual ministry of the Gospel -Bill Johnson
 - Bill Johnson goes on to say, hard to minister to one group w/o getting offended at another group
 - Poor/Rich

- Rich/those that don't work
- Children/adults who don't prioritize kids
- Adults/ younger generation that don't honor wisdom of older generation
- One Race/ another race
- List goes on and on
- Time to stop being offended

Closing

- Time for us The Church to stand up and say "Don't believe us unless we are doing the works of Jesus"
- Are we doing the works of Jesus?
- Step out and take a Risk, Give God a chance

- *Steve Harvey* introduces Jesus
 - Excitement
 - Missing in the church

- Need to experience God
 - Jesus healed everyone
- Magi visit
- Experience Jesus, changed
- How many have been healed, miraculously explain
- Testimony
- What has Jesus done recently
 - Not just about our salvation in the past
 - Your story
 - New creation
 - Something New