

ULC Sermon Study Resource

Dear Church // Philadelphia The Weak Church

Pastor Gabe

November 19th, 2023

Prayer: Pause for a few moments to go to the Lord in prayer. Ask that He would draw near to you in this time, and open your heart and mind to hear His Word.

Icebreaker: What are your plans for Thanksgiving? How far do you have to travel to see family and friends?

Reading: (Revelation 3:7-13)

Outline:

1. The Authority (3:7)

- We have a tendency to go with the flow and let society and other factors constitute and determine our lives instead of letting Jesus take care of it for us.
- Jesus' authority is comforting and challenging. It is comforting to know that Jesus is in control of all things. It is challenging because it forces you to ask yourself if you view and respect Jesus' authority.
- To recognize him as the authority he is, is to trust him with your whole life, to be challenged and corrected by him, to view your decisions in light of his truth.

Q: Do you feel like you hold God as your authority in life?

2. The Mission (3:8)

- Jesus' mission is to let everyone, everywhere to the universal reign of God through Jesus Christ.
- We should be open to where Jesus sends us.
- We are to usher people into God's church and proclaim the good news as we are called to do.

Q: What can you do to follow your mission and spread the good news of God's redeeming grace?

The Future 3:(9-11)

- Heaven will feel like home, since you will feel safe and protected, surrounded by the people who care for you.
- Any sin, any failing, anything that would separate you from God, he has taken from you as far as the east is from the west through his blood shed on the cross.
- Your future is in the presence of God

Q: How can we explain what the kingdom of God is like to others?

Reflection/Application Questions:

1. How can we know that Jesus is actually in control of our lives?
2. How can we pursue our mission?
3. What do you think that Jesus meant in verse 11 when he said "hold fast what you have, so that no one would seize your crown?"

Suggestions for further study:

- Romans 13:1-4. What does this say about God's authority
- 2 Corinthians 5. How does this relate to the mission that we are called to by Christ?
- Jeremiah 29:10-14. What does this tell us about God's promises for the future?

Closing Prayer:

Dear Lord, Thank you for this time that we get to take out of our day to spend time in your word. We thank you for giving us your son, Jesus, so that he would be our authority. Thank you for not abandoning us, but choosing to redeem us, even when we don't deserve your mercy. We ask for your guidance on the mission that you have sent us upon. We ask this all through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.