

April 3, 2011

Randall L. Adkisson, Ph.D.

Monday

Mark 1:2 As it is written in Isaiah the prophet: "Behold, I send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way...Make His path straight."

God has always used men and women to prepare the way for His message. It seems strange that He would entrust us with such a task, knowing our limitations and failures, but He does! You are to make the way of the Lord straight and smooth. How do you do so? By demonstrating the grace of Jesus in your life as you interact with others. Jesus is depending upon you for a smooth introduction. Your deportment, your language, your humor, your demeanor, your grace and witness are essential to prepare the way for His entrance into the lives of other people. You are now the messenger who prepares the way of the Lord.

Tuesday

Mark 1:17 And Jesus said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you become fishers of men." Immediately they left their nets and followed Him.

Some people do not recognize the deal of a lifetime when it is presented to them. James and John did! They recognized that Jesus was offering them an abundance of life, which was not possible to them by any other means. They left lucrative and fulfilling work to join Jesus in changing the world. God is offering you the same deal. You may not be called to leave your work, but He is calling you to a fuller vocation, a vocation of mission and purpose. Take the deal!

Wednesday

Mark 1:22 They were amazed at His teaching; for He was teaching them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.

In heaven, Jesus has authority. In the world, Jesus exercised authority. In your life, Jesus desires authority. Think about it. If Jesus' words are authoritative in heaven and reveal His authority on earth, shouldn't you allow His words to have authority in your life? What does that mean? First, simply recognize the word of God as authoritative, bearing authority above any other source of information or knowledge. Second, allow God's word to have authority in your life by obeying it.

Thursday

Mark 1:24 saying, "What business do we have with each other, Jesus of Nazareth? Have You come to destroy us? I know who You are!"

There is a vast difference between knowing who Jesus is and knowing Jesus as Savior. Many think that they know Jesus when in reality they only know about Him. What is the difference? It is not knowledge. The demon had more knowledge than the disciple. "I know who You are," he could say. But then he followed with, "What do you have to do with me?" Do you look at the things of God and say disparagingly, "What does that have to do with me?" Or do you hear the word of God and say, "This has everything to do with me?" James says, "You believe that God is one. You do well; the demons also believe, and shudder." They only know who He is! Make sure you know Him as Savior and Lord.

Friday

Mark 1:30-31 Simon's mother-in-law was lying sick with a fever; and immediately they *spoke to Jesus about her. He came to her and raised her up, taking her by the hand, and the fever left her, and she waited on them.

One of the wonderful reasons to follow the Savior is the blessing you will bring to your family. Simon left the boat to follow the Savior and by doing so brought Jesus to his mother. Her healing was a result of his obedience, his risk, his adventure in Christ. Follow Jesus because He is the Savior. Follow Jesus because He is Lord and God. Follow Him because in following you will find abundant and eternal life. And Follow Jesus because as you willingly obey, your faith will bring untold blessings to those you love the most.