

Sunday, June 18, 2023
The Encouraging Jesus Series
A Man and the “Family of God”

Baptism is Immersion Into the Family of God

- Baptism represented Jesus’s public declaration of His commitment to the purpose for which He was created. **Matthew 3:13-17**
- Baptism represents a “publicly expressed prayer” for cleansing of our life. **1 Peter 3:21**
- Baptism represented immersion into the totality of Jesus’ work to transform our lives. **Colossians 2:11-15; Romans 6:3-4**
- Baptism represents our decision to become a member of the family of God. **John 13:34-35; 15:12-15; 17:22-23**

The Role of a Man in Life

1. God’s “Perfect Servant” lives to serve justice.

Isaiah 42:1-4

42:1 God gives His Spirit to enable a man to stand for justice.
42:2-3 Justice does not require proving self or expressing power.
42:4 Commitment to justice He will not be discouraged in doing right for others.

He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God? **Micah 6:8**

“Practical justice” is concern for the most vulnerable and marginalized members of our society, and making long-term personal sacrifices in order to serve their interests, needs and cause.”

2. Justice is love and care for people as displayed by Jesus.

*“The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, Because He anointed Me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent Me to proclaim release to captives, And recovery of sight to the blind, To set free those who are oppressed,
To proclaim the favorable year of the Lord.”* **Luke 4:18-19**

- Jesus lived to help and to heal people.
- Jesus died to restore people’s relationship with God.
- Jesus and the Holy Spirit nurtured God’s children.

Who are the vulnerable? mothers raising children without help, foster care youth in crises, fatherless children and youth, children being indoctrinated by an immoral culture, the elderly, those who do not have opportunity to hear the voice of God.

**The Church Needs Men Who Stands for Justice
and live to reflect Christlike devotion to redeeming lives.**

3. Jesus is more concerned with who we are during the week than where we are on a Sunday morning.

*“I hate, I reject your festivals, Nor do I delight in your festive assemblies.
²² Even though you offer up to Me burnt offerings and your grain offerings, I will not accept them;
And I will not even look at the peace offerings of your fattened oxen.
²³ Take away from Me the noise of your songs;
I will not even listen to the sound of your harps.
²⁴ But let justice roll out like waters,
And righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.”* **Amos 5:21-24**

God Cares Most About How a Man Serves People!

The Role of a Man in the Family of God

- Jesus expects God’s children to reflect Him in the world.
Matthew 5:13-16
- Jesus expects men to share His burden for healing people and building up the family of God.
John 15:12-15
- As a man, what can I legitimately say displays my commitment to sacrificing self for what Jesus taught?

Congregational Budget Meeting: Next Sunday!