

Message Me

Acts 13:13-43

Stop and Think: What messages are we listening to?

If we never stop and think about it, we can go a long time before we ever realize the impact messages are having upon our lives. The messages we hear on repeat, that is those things we listen to over and over, impact the way we think, the decisions we make, the lives we live.

How do we keep the Gospel message at the front and center of our lives?

Four Truths of the Gospel Message

1. _____ is at the _____ of the message (16-23)

Make no mistake, this Gospel message is not primarily about you. It is ultimately about God. If the Gospel message is primarily about you or me, that leads us to pride and idolatry. If it's about God, that leads to humility, worship, and His glory!

If the Gospel message we believe and we proclaim does not start with all that God has done and end with all of God's glory, then we have a twisted gospel.

"Come and see what **God** has done: he is awesome in his deeds toward the children of man." ~Psalm 66:5

Directive: _____ God at the _____ of the message.

2. God has _____ the _____ of His message (24-37)

Every last detail of what happened to Jesus in his life, death, and resurrection was a fulfillment of the promises of God. From John the Baptist leading the way, to the rulers of Jerusalem condemning him, being executed by Pilate, put on a cross, laid in a tomb, and God raising Him up, all of it is a fulfillment of God's promises to His people.

Directive: _____ God has _____ the promises of His message.

Why remember it? The world, our weak flesh, circumstances in life can all come at us, attacking our belief, our trust, our faith in God. There is power in remembering.

3. This message brings _____ and _____ (38-41)

The Jews believed that the Law could make them free. They held to that, not wanting to give up the old system for the new that truly would free them from their sins, that which the Law could not do.

Because they were so inclined to hold to the Law and not see and receive the work of Jesus, Paul issues a warning, "Don't miss it! This is such incredibly good news that you might not believe it!" Many of the Jews missed it during the days of Jesus. They allowed the Law to keep them from the truth of the Gospel that would set them free!

Directive: _____ from whatever keeps you from _____ in Gospel forgiveness and freedom.

4. This message needs _____ (42-43)

Time is not going to slow down for any one of us. The messages we receive on a day-by-day basis are not decreasing, they're only increasing. In addition to that, Satan, the enemy of our faith wants to do everything possible for us to lose focus on what is truly important. If we're not careful harmless messages, like an instant message, can replace what's of primary importance, the gospel message.

Directive: _____ this message.

Play this message on repeat!

What's something you need to do today or this week to help you remember the importance of the Gospel in your life? Maybe you need a Post-It note next to your bathroom mirror that you will see every morning. Maybe you need to write or call a friend and share the message with them. Maybe as a family you need to memorize a gospel passage together this year.

What if we took Deuteronomy 6:6-9 and applied it to the Gospel message for us today?

Teach it diligently to your children, talk about it when you sit in your house, when you go for a walk, when you lie down, and when you rise. Bind it as a sign on your hand, wear it as jewelry between your eyes. Write it on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.