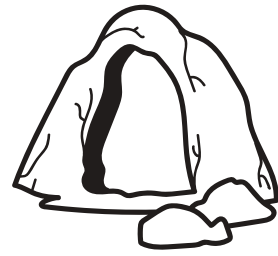


THE LITTLE THINGS



TWO UNDERCOVER DISCIPLES AND A FUNERAL

JULY 8 AND 12, 2020

The Christian faith is based entirely on a single event in history, the resurrection of Jesus Christ. But what if no one had ever known about that event? What if the circumstances of Jesus' burial had been different? What if His body hadn't been laid in a tomb, but rather tossed in the city dump like so many other executed criminals? If there had been no tomb, no one could have known that a tomb was empty. Join us for the final message in the "Little Things" series as Pastor Gary explores why two men's little act of courage may be the reason we know about Jesus' resurrection today.

PASSAGE (READ):

John 19:38-42

PRINCIPLE (KNOW):

- Taking faith public requires _____ .
- Taking faith public requires _____ .
- Taking faith public requires _____ .

PRACTICE (DO):

- Pray for God to give you the love you'll need to share your faith.
- Learn how to effectively share your faith.
- Do it! Seize the next opportunity God gives you to share your story.

DAILY READINGS:

Identify the "little" thing in each daily reading that resulted in a BIG change. Was it good or bad? Ask God to help you apply the passage and its principle to your life.

- Day 1: John 3
- Day 2: John 7
- Day 3: John 19
- Day 4: Matthew 27
- Day 5: Matthew 10
- Day 6: Acts 3
- Day 7: Acts 4

SERMON SERIES ON SSBC.ORG

- 30 Words (2018)
- Beautiful Feet (2014)

RIGHTNOW MEDIA (VISIT SSBC.ORG/FAMILY-RESOURCES):

Workplace Grace, by Bill Peel

Evangelism and Friendship, by Jimmy Scroggins

A Nuts and Bolts Look at Evangelism, by Steve Stroope

BOOKS

Jesus, The Final Days, by Craig Evans and N.T. Wright

The Case for Easter, by Lee Strobel

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

HANGOUT (WARMING UP TO THE TOPIC):

1. Do you have any lingering questions or thoughts related to this week's teaching or daily readings?
2. Share an example of a "little thing" someone did or said that was critical in your decision to follow Jesus as Lord and Savior.

HEAR (LISTENING TO GOD THROUGH SCRIPTURE):

3. Read Matthew 10:1-7.
 - How does this experience clarify what Jesus meant in Matthew 4:19?
 - Why do you think Jesus forbade the disciples from going to the gentiles or into Samaria? Compare this to His command to these same disciples in Matthew 28:16-20.
 - What does it mean that "the Kingdom of God is at hand"? How do we explain this declaration more than two thousand years later? Why is it important for people to know this reality?
4. Read Matthew 10:8-15.
 - Do you think Jesus gives His modern disciples (us) the same authority He gave the twelve in verses 1 and 8? Why or why not? What is the purpose behind these signs?
 - Why did Jesus give such specific instructions about possessions and payment for the disciples' work? In verse 8, Jesus said, "You received without paying, give without pay," and in verse 10 He said, "The laborer deserves his food." Compare these two statements and discuss what these verses say to us today about the church and the work of the Gospel.
 - How does Jesus instruct the disciples to handle people who are unfriendly to the message of the Gospel? Read what He said about this in Matthew 7:6. What does this tell us about sharing the Gospel today?
5. Read Matthew 10:26-39.
 - Fear is the primary reason most of us do not go public with our faith. What does this passage teach us about fear?
 - Whom will Jesus acknowledge before His Father and whom will He deny? How do you understand this teaching?
 - Verses 34-39 seem unlike some of Jesus' other teachings. What is He saying in these verses? How do you understand them?

HUDDLE (MAKING IT PERSONAL AND PRAYING TOGETHER - IN HUDDLES):

6. If you were with us for the "Go Fish" series earlier this year, what, if anything, have you done since then to be obedient to Jesus' call to become a fisher of people? If you've taken steps, what results have you seen? If you haven't taken steps, why not? What is holding you back? Talk about it, invite accountability, and take time to pray.