

THIS WEEKS MESSAGE

September 15 & 16 '07

"Our Amazing Race" Series

This Week's Message: "On the Shoulders of Giants"

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*Hebrews 11:13 & 38 All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance. And they admitted that they were aliens and strangers on earth...
...the world was not worthy of them..."*



As we look back in history, we should be challenged AND encouraged by the godly example of so many who have gone before us! As we seek to build the kingdom of God in our day – we do so – "on the shoulders of giants!" Hebrews 11 tells us that the "world was not worthy of them!"

Will history say the same of us?

During these next few weeks, we are going to be looking together at the mission we believe God has called us to live out in our city and region. As we talk of the impact He would have us to have on the world around us, I pray that you will be personally challenged to step into His call on your life. There are two basics that anchor everything we do:

Loving People...
And
Following Jesus!

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

History (Making it Personal)

1. Many of your groups have just started again for the fall. Spend some time catching up on the highlights of summer – what are your joys & where could you use some TLC?!
2. If there are new people in your group – take some time to go around the room and briefly introduce yourselves.
3. Ask each person to pick a historical figure who has been a personal inspiration or challenge. Briefly share: who has impacted you? Why? How?

Digging Deeper (Looking to the Bible)

4. Read the two "Great Commissions" side by side: Genesis 12:2-3 and Matthew 28:19-20. If you had to summarize the mission of the church expressed in these two passages – what would you say?
5. Read Matthew 25:31-46 alongside Zechariah 7:4-12 and Isaiah 58:6-12. Talk about how we might live these principles out in the city of Kelowna.
6. Scan through John 4:1-27 to re-acquaint yourself with this story. Jesus was crossing to the "wrong side of the tracks" in this conversation: What parts of Kelowna would we compare to Samaria? What areas of town do people avoid because they don't like the people who live there? How would Jesus have us enter these neighborhoods?
7. Read I Corinthians 9:19-22 and talk about the focus we need to have as a church family if we are to reach out in our community. Are there people groups in our city that we would consider "unreached"? How might we reach out?
8. Scan through Hebrews 11 to remind yourself of this long list of faithful people. Is there one or more of them that stand out in your personal experience? Are there surprises in the list? Who would you add to this list from the last 100 years?

Taking It Home (Application)

9. If you had to write a description of the "church" in North America today that would be included in a history book – what would you write?
10. Spend some time in prayer for our church family – that as we seek to be the hands and feet of Jesus to Kelowna that we would hear clearly from God and obey with joy!
11. Finally, at the individual level, consider what part God would have you to play in this great venture we've been called to? What dreams has God placed on your heart?