the TAKE HOME 03.26.17

Today's Scripture Passage: Memorize this verse!

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." Acts 1:8

Our Fallen Condition: Our life does not always match our testimony and sometimes we don't share the whole truth of the Gospel with people.

"Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You clean the outside of the cup and dish…You are like whitewashed tombs, which look beautiful on the outside but on the inside are full of the bones of the dead and everything unclean. In the same way, on the outside you appear to people as righteous but on the inside you are full of hypocrisy and wickedness…You shut the door of the kingdom of heaven in people's faces. You yourselves do not enter, nor will you let those enter who are trying to. Matthew 23:25-27,13

Instead, you must worship Christ as Lord of your life. And if someone asks about your hope as a believer, always be ready to explain it. But do this in a gentle and respectful way. Keep your conscience clear. Then if people speak against you, they will be ashamed when they see what a good life you live because you belong to Christ. 1 Peter 3:15-16 (NLT)

Our conscience testifies that we have conducted ourselves in the world, and especially in our relations with you, with integrity and godly sincerity.
2 Corinthians 1:12

Paul's thorn in the flesh (2 Corinthians 12)
Paul's struggle with sin (Romans 7)
…so we cared for you. Because we loved you so much, we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well.
1 Thessalonians 2:8

…become blameless and pure, "children of God without fault in a warped and crooked generation." Then you will shine among them like stars in the sky as you hold firmly to the word of life. Philippians 2:15-16

Application Questions

- When you think of a lack of integrity, what's the first area of your life that comes to mind?
- How do you usually clear your conscience before God? Do you need to do this more frequently? Have you tried journaling or confessing to a trusted friend?
- Can you see how being vulnerable with those outside the faith can help create a connection for the Gospel? How could you stretch yourself in this area?

Do you know what the Gospel is? Do you know how to share it with others? Are you sharing the whole truth with people or leaving out the parts that are uncomfortable?

Sermon Notes

Application:

Clear Your Conscience (1 Peter 3:15-16 and 2 Corinthians 1:12)
Share Your Struggle (2 Corinthians 12 and Romans 7)
Tell the Truth (Philippians 2:15-16 Galatians 1:8)