Lesson 1 "How Do We Saturate The Triad With Jesus?"

- I. Introduction We are going to take a break on our *Romans* series for 2-3 weeks because I want to share some things on our church vision.
  - A. God gave me this vision in 2015 before we started the church, but until recently I didn't know how to accomplish it. Over the last couple of months I've had a series of encounters with the Lord where He has shown me our next step in fulfilling this vision.
  - B. I've spoken with our church leadership about this and they are in agreement with me. We believe we've heard God. We will begin implementing this next step in our various teams within the church and into our overall church culture so we can take the next step in doing what God has asked us to do.
  - C. If you aren't familiar with the vision, I want to share how God gave us this vision.
    - 1. The Lord asked me, what does it mean to reach a city for me? In mind, I thought a city was making an impact on a city if it had 1,000 members.
    - 2. The Lord spoke to me and said, "Brian, a city isn't reached if a particular church has 1,000 members. That just means that church has 1,000 members." He then said, "You'll know a city I story about how God spoke to me and told me a city is reached when it is saturated with Me."
    - 3. It was the most profound thing I ever heard and I knew it was God. Everyone ever talked to knows it's God, but what does it actually mean and how do we do it? Earlier this year I asked God if we could change the vision because it sounds so pie in the sky grandiose it makes me sound crazy and I don't even begin to know how we are supposed to fulfill it. His answer was, "No!"
    - 4. **Saturate definition -** 1. To satisfy fully. 2. To treat, furnish, or charge with something to the point where no more can be absorbed, dissolved, or retained. 3. To fill completely with something that permeates or pervades. **Saturate speaks of overflow. But how do we get there?**

## II. How Do We Saturate the Triad

- A. *John 4:1-14* Jesus has a conversation with the Samaritan woman about living water. He tells her He provides a water that will cause her to never thirst again. A person is pretty saturated to never thirst again.
- B. *John 4:15-26* The woman asks for this living water that will cause her to never thirst again so Jesus obliges her request. He then asks her to call her husband. When she says she doesn't have one, he tells her she is correct. She has had five husbands before and the man she's living with now isn't her husband.
  - 1. This gets her attention and she then gets religious. She begins to talk about where to worship/religious style (Mt. Gerizim or Jerusalem).

- 2. Jesus brings her back to substance worship in spirit and in truth.
  - a. What happens next is profound because Jesus was pretty blunt yet He had such grace and love in His eyes that she didn't feel rejected.
  - b. There was a genuine repentance in the Samaritan woman and Jesus then revealed Himself as he Christ. **Proverbs 25:14** *the secret of the Lord is with those who fear Him.*
- 3. Look at what happened next. **John 4:25-30** The woman went and told the men of the city about Jesus and they all came to meet Him.
  - a. Here's the heart of this message. Jesus never told her to do this. She did it of her own accord. She had a transformed heart.
  - b. Jesus replicated Himself in this woman. This is what discipleship is all about. This is how we saturate a region with Jesus.
  - c. One of the western misconceptions about discipleship is discipleship is based around knowledge of scripture. While a disciple is called to be a learner *John 8:31 disciples abide in the word*, a person who hears the word and isn't a doer of it is deceived. The other side of discipleship aside from being a learner is being a devoted follower. This is radical obedience out of a love relationship, not the law.
  - d. **Song of Solomon 7:10-12** Right after the groom (representative of Jesus) affirms the bride in her identity, she declares her love for Him and then says, "Let's go to the vineyard."
    - i. The vineyard is symbolic of church. Whose idea was it to go check out the church/ministry? The bride's. Did Jesus tell her to do this? No. What happened? She matured into the fulness of her identity and became a devoted follower.
    - ii. Did the groom make her do this? No. She did it by choice because He affirmed her in her identity so much she had His heart.
    - iii. **John 15:7** What causes Jesus to make such a radical promise that He'll do anything we ask. We have the same heart because His word abides in us. This means we can be trusted.
    - iv. Discipleship about radical devotion to Jesus above all else. It's more than just getting knowledge, it's about getting His heart. It's about Him duplicating Himself in us.
- 4. The Results of Duplication is Saturation- John 4:39-41.
  - a. verse 39 Many Samaritans believed because of the woman's testimony.
  - b. verses 40-41 Others came and heard and believed when Jesus spoke.
  - c. Out of all of this, essentially the city of Jesus became saturated!
- III. Conclusion Over the next few weeks I'm going to unpack how we get His heart and become a disciple of Jesus. There are some practical things He wants to show us. Today was the what, the next couple of weeks are the how.

- A. What I'm proposing to saturate a region with Jesus isn't a get rich quick scheme or take these pills and lose 20lbs in a month. It's slow and steady wins the race while believing for a miraculous divine encounter that happened in Wales or at Azusa Street. The benefit to doing this is it a way of sustaining personal revival and not just living off of goosebumps.
- B. I'm an example of someone who gave up everything because I got Jesus's heart. I gave up \$160k job years ago and would do it all over again because I live a better life now. This happened because I got Jesus's heart. God spoke to me and told me, me and Ashley need to begin to put our hearts into all of you.
- C. I would encourage everyone who considers Grace Life their home church to get involved in serving in some way. We are going to begin doing specific things to facilitate discipleship in our serve teams and it will be a great way to grow.
- D. Pray for divine encounter out of John 4:42
- E. Call Up Prayer Team