

7.15.12

Walking Dusty...

teacher: Adam

Sometimes when I listen to a message, one particular point sticks in my mind for a while. This time it was when Adam talked about Mark 3:4 “Then Jesus asked them, ‘Which is lawful on the Sabbath: to do good or to do evil, to save life or to kill?’” Adam added, “Jesus might challenge today’s church by saying that it’s ok to heal on the other days of the week, too.” He challenged that “doing good” isn’t a once-a-week event.

For the last few months, my husband and I have been restoring an old house. We’ve worked hard to paint the ceilings, walls and trim. We’ve ripped out old carpet and ruined plaster. We’ve spent a lot of time giving life to this old house. But Sunday’s teaching made me realize that our project has no eternal significance. Although it makes the neighborhood look better, we haven’t invested in anyone in the process. A lot of hours that were spent on the house could have been used to bless someone in our community. We could have been pouring life into someone, instead of something.

I’m not saying we shouldn’t fix up the property. What I mean is that my weekly volunteering or the once-a-month “4 the City” venture isn’t enough. There are some things in life that aren’t that important . . . like fixing up a house. But there are other things in life whose importance is eternal . . . like praying for and taking a meal to a grieving family or mentoring a child. Jesus wasn’t just healing on the Sabbath; He was continuing to do what He had been doing all along – loving God and loving His neighbor. And His example is given to encourage me to do the same.

Questions to Consider:

The Greatest Commandment is “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. And love your neighbor as yourself.” (Matthew 22:37, 39) Do I love my neighbor more than I love my neighborhood?

What would my response be if I saw someone healed?

Why did Jesus become angry? How does my anger look (or not look) like Jesus?

Adam shared a list of 39 “no no’s” that were forbidden for Jews to do on the Sabbath. What do I do to set apart the Sabbath, without making it a list of “no no’s.”

The Pharisees didn’t care about the needs of the crippled man. How do I get to the point of not caring? What things happen in my life that causes me to not care? Am I sitting around watching people in need and not doing anything?

What makes me religious? (Adam talked about golf and shopping as examples.)

Adam gave two examples of our hearts by using a play-doh illustration. Which heart do I have? He suggested we take little steps toward hardness. What is making my heart hard? What do I need to soften it? In what areas of my heart do I need God to soften?

Adam challenged that it's God's intention to heal through the church, and he quoted from David Platt by saying "We are Plan A. There is no Plan B." How is God using me to heal and minister to our community? Where else is God calling me to serve?

Here's a link to the youtube video Adam used: <http://rapgenius.com/Jefferson-bethke-why-i-hate-religion-but-love-jesus-spoken-word-lyrics>

This month's memory verse: *On hearing this, Jesus said to them, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners."* Mark 2:17 TNIV

Additional Verses: Mark 3:1-6, Matthew 13:14-16

Reminders:

7.22 – The Gathering at SHU at 10am & 4 the City Initiative

7.29 – The Gathering at SHU at 10am & 5th Sunday Family Fun Day!

Radical Reminder:

I will pray for the entire world.

I will read through the entire Word.

I will sacrifice my money for a specific purpose.

I will spend time in another context.

I will commit my life to a multiplying community.