

SERMON NOTES

Sunday 26 March

sunnysidechurch

The Greatest Story Ever Told: Jesus the way to live

Bible passages: Luke 7.18-23; John 14.5-14

Introduction

- Stories tell us something important about the hero and help us understand ideas
- Continuing The Greatest Story Ever Told by looking at the way Jesus showed us to live

Luke 7: Jesus' Mission

- Jesus laid out his mission in the Nazareth Manifesto (Luke 4)
- Pointed to stories of how he was doing what he said he would to reassure John the Baptist

John 14

- Jesus is the Way back to relationship with God, the Way to Life in all its fullness and the Truth of what is said is shown in what he did (especially the Resurrection)
- Early Christians called 'Followers of The Way' who sought to follow Jesus' example of love and obedience
- Their lives were a powerful witness to the truth of what the Bible said about Jesus

Conclusion

- The great story of God's love and faithfulness continues through the stories of Holy Week, Easter and beyond
- Those stories have been life-changing for generations of people
- How might our story witness to others about Jesus?

Some questions for discussion

1. What is your favourite story about Jesus? What does it tell you about him?
2. Read Luke 7.18-23. Why did Jesus point to the stories of how he had changed lives as proof of who he is?
3. Read John 14.5-14. What does Jesus' claim to be 'The Way, The Truth and The Life' mean to you?
4. How might being known as a 'Follower of the Way' change how you see being a Christian?
5. *Talking Jesus*: think about your story and how it speaks about God's story. How might you answer these questions:
 - What example could you give of God's work in your life?
 - What happened to make you turn to God?
 - What difference has God made to your story?
6. What is God asking you to do as a result of what he has said to you through these passages? It might be something to pray about, something to think more about, something he wants you to talk to someone about or something he wants you to do. Make a note of it so you don't forget!

Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect. (1 Peter 3.15)

Why not spend some time thanking God for the difference he has made to your story and asking him to help you tell your story of Jesus to someone this week?

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