SERMON NOTES & LIFE GROUP QUESTIONS

PUSHBACK: WHY IT'S ALL SO WORTH IT, Mat 10:40-42, Curt Brunk, 3.28.10

Easter – the most important day in all of human history

- Had Christ simply lived, just one more example
- Had to die and rise again to make something new
  - This is what Christianity all about – new
  - New facts, we've never seen, new truths we've never known
- Best corollary in life…falling in love, everything new, and wonderful!
  - Just want to spread the joy/life/love
  - Surprising to get Pushback…still, totally worth it

If you're sent, rejection or acceptance is of one who sent you, Mat 10:40

- We're sent, Mark 16:15

We are Prophets & Righteous Ones, Mat 10:4

- Prophets – telling the things of God
- Righteous – not because of actions, but because our desire is to be "right with Him"
- (Note: Israel's prophets & priests part of class system)

We are "little ones," i.e. His children-this makes it worth it

- What we do comes from a place of love overflowing
- Is our love still overflowing?
  - This Easter – 82% of non-believers say would come if asked…only 31% of believers will ask
- Jesus: imagine the very worst that could happen…still worth it? If so, if better than expected, victory and joy!
  - Worst that ever happened to me…much better than what disciples experienced

Not all will reject, some will "receive"

- Will something in them leap? Lk1:44
  - Even if it's small, Mat 10:42
- So worth it: cousin, friend, neighbor, acquaintance…
  - Heavens rejoiced! Lk 15:9-10

Pre-Easter Warm Up

NEXT WEEK: So Crazy It Just Might Work!

LIFE GROUP QUESTIONS

1. If you were to give a title to Matthew 10: 40- 42, what would you call it? Why is there such a change in tone between these verses and the previous ones? To whom does Jesus seem to address these blessings? Explain.

2. Curt spoke of some small thing we, as Christ- followers, can do to cooperate with the Holy Spirit to "cause a spark" in the life someone whom God is pursuing, but does not yet know Him. How have you seen this work in your experience? What will you do to stay on alert for these kinds of moments this week?

3. Who is someone you are hoping to bring to Easter Services this week? How can we pray for you in this?

4. What did you highlight in writing the story of your spiritual journey this week? How is this a fresh opportunity to be grateful? To give praise to God? Was there someone involved in bringing you to Christ whom you could contact and appreciate this week? What does your testimony story reveal about how God works?

TODAY'S OPPORTUNITY: (Remember to watch for God to move this week and tell us your testimony!)

I will pray for _____ to come to Jesus