

Sermon Title: Finding an Adventure with Jesus

Sermon by Fred Oaks
Week of October 24, 2010

Sermon Based Small Group Discussion Guide

Ice Breaker When you were a child, how did you answer this question: ‘When I grow up, I want to be _____’? How does your life now compare to how you imagined it would be as a child?

Big Idea: God desires all people to live *on purpose* for him. Christians often find that God uses more mature believers to speak his purpose into their lives.

Sermon Text:

1In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge: 2Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction. 3For the time will come when men will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. 4They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths. 5But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry. 6For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time has come for my departure. 7I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

– 2 Timothy 4:1-7

Learning more about the lesson

Perhaps some of you have watched The Amazing Race series on CBS. In this series, 10-12 couples are selected to participate and the ultimate prize is one-million dollars. Traveling around the world by plane, car, train, walking, running, etc., these contestants are required to participate in various stunts and life situations that are quite

challenging for the faint at heart. At various stages of the competition, the last couple to arrive at a certain destination, somewhere in the world, is eliminated. Thus the race continues until all but one couple is eliminated at which time they arrive at their final designated destination and receive the prize—one million dollars.

Like the ten contestants competing for the prize, did you know that you and I are invited “Find An Adventure with Jesus.” It too is an Amazing Race. It is a race in which the stakes are high and the prize to be won is astonishing. This race is described by the Apostle Paul in the text that we will study this week. In the amazing race, described by the Apostle Paul, unlike the few participants who participate in CBS's Amazing Race, in this race all are welcome to accept the charge.

1. Have you ever been given a “charge” by a mentor or someone you greatly admired? How did it make you feel?
2. What specific instructions or guidance did Paul give to Timothy, 2 Timothy 4:1, 5?
3. Why was Paul so intent on motivating Timothy to make sure he lived with purpose. See 2 Timothy 4:6,7?
4. Read 2 Timothy 4:6-8. What personal challenges are you facing that are hindering you from “finishing the race?”

5. If you were to live life like it was a sprint and not a marathon, how would it impact the daily decisions you make? How would it impact the things that you do?

6. What counsel would you share with someone who is facing the end of their life?

Taking it Home

1. Has anyone you greatly admire and respect recently “charged” you with a message, perhaps about your personal life, family, finances, spiritual walk, etc.
2. Is there a charge that God has been requesting of you that you refused to accept? Personal? Family? Financial? Spiritual?
3. What would be on your list if you intended to leave a legacy behind?
4. What specific step might you take to accept the spiritual adventure and legacy God has planned for you?

Prayer Requests and Praises:

Pray together as a group for the courage to accept the charge and will that God has for your life and the life of our church. Thank God for the blessings associated with seeking God’s will.

Updates:

Care Coordinator
Outreach Coordinator
Social Coordinator