



Life Group Sermon Study Notes

“Reaching the City: Touch the World”

Pastor James Lowe – October 21, 2019

Warm Up (10-15 minutes)

Choose a question below to answer or ask another. No right or wrong answers.

- What are some things that you are held responsible for at work?
- What are some consequences you have faced for actions you have taken at work, good or bad?

Word (10-15 minutes)

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11 As they heard these things, he proceeded to tell a parable, because he was near to Jerusalem, and because they supposed that the kingdom of God was to appear immediately. 12 He said therefore, “A nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom and then return. 13 Calling ten of his servants, he gave them ten minas, and said to them, ‘Engage in business until I come.’ 14 But his citizens hated him and sent a delegation after him, saying, ‘We do not want this man to reign over us.’ 15 When he returned, having received the kingdom, he ordered these servants to whom he had given the money to be called to him, that he might know what they had gained by doing business. 16 The first came before him, saying, ‘Lord, your mina has made ten minas more.’ 17 And he said to him, ‘Well done, good servant! Because you have been faithful in a very little, you shall have authority over ten cities.’ 18 And the second came, saying, ‘Lord, your mina has made five minas.’ 19 And he said to him, ‘And you are to be over five cities.’ 20 Then another came, saying, ‘Lord, here is your mina, which I kept laid away in a handkerchief; 21 for I was afraid of you, because you are a severe man. You take what you did not deposit, and reap what you did not sow.’ 22 He said to him, ‘I will condemn you with your own words, you wicked servant! You knew that I was a severe man, taking what I did not deposit and reaping what I did not sow? 23 Why then did you not put my money in the bank, and at my coming I might have collected it with interest?’ 24 And he said to those who stood by, ‘Take the mina from him, and give it to the one who has the ten minas.’ 25 And they said to him, ‘Lord, he has ten minas!’ 26 I tell you that to everyone who has, more will be given, but from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. 27 But as for these enemies of mine, who did not want me to reign over them, bring them here and slaughter them before me.’” (Luke 19:11-27 ESV)

The parable of the ten minas reflects upon the nature of the Kingdom, and how God is going to judge our affairs when Jesus returns. Will we be faithful to serve the King, or will we reject His rule? In this parable, there is a nobleman who leaves to receive his kingdom, ten servants who are each given one mina by the nobleman, and the citizens. When the nobleman departs, the scriptures say that *“his citizens hated him and sent a delegation after him, saying ‘We do not want this man to reign over us.’*” (Luke 19:14 ESV) Two of the servants faithfully steward the resources they are given, and the third servant accuses the master of being harsh, and unjust. For the two servants that remained faithful to the nobleman, they are rewarded by being given authority over whole cities. The third servant is strongly rebuked but remained in the kingdom. As for the citizens who rejected his rule, they are slaughtered before the nobleman.

Jesus is the nobleman in this story. He is the One who receives the kingdom. When we confess that Jesus is Lord and Savior we become citizens of His Kingdom. If we have received His salvation, we are also confessing submission to His Lordship. We are expected to take up the cause of the kingdom, and faithfully steward the resources Christ has given us having confidence in the character and good propriety of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Jesus explains in clear terms that there are consequences for how we respond to the message of the Kingdom. For those who believe, and faithfully carry out the kingdom mandate they are rewarded extravagantly. As for those who reject the coming King they will be condemned and cast out of God’s presence forever.

As we consider the cost of reaching our city our hearts and minds should be greatly encouraged that Christ is faithful to reward our faithfulness. Like it says in Hebrews 11:6 *“And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.”* Unlike the third servant and the citizens who reject the reign of the Christ we know that our God is good. The master gave the servants the minas in good faith looking for a reason to greatly reward their faithfulness. Throughout the new testament, we see the goodness of our God. As we consider the disciples Jesus said of them that they were no longer servants but friends, and says of those who believe that they are called the adopted sons of God sharing in the full inheritance of the Son.

Discussion (10-15 minutes)

Choose one of the points below and discuss how the lesson applies to our lives.

- What does it mean to say that Christ is Lord?
- What is your “mina” that God has given you?
- How can we grow our faith?

Prayer (10-15 minutes)

Pray for any of the following, as well as other requests you may have.

- Thank God for His leadership, and for giving us gifts to steward.
- Ask God to identify our “mina”.
- Ask God for inspiration and direction in how we can reach our city.