

Called To Be A Watchman!

What comes to mind as you read these words that God spoke to the Prophet Ezekiel: *“Son of man, speak to your people and tell them: Suppose I bring the sword against a land, and the people of that land select a man from among them, appointing him as their watchman, and he sees the sword coming against the land and blows his trumpet to warn the people. Then, if anyone hears the sound of the trumpet but ignores the warning, and the sword comes and takes him away, his blood will be on his own head. Since he heard the sound of the trumpet but ignored the warning, his blood is on his own hands. If he had taken warning, he would have saved his life. However, if the watchman sees the sword coming but doesn’t blow the trumpet, so that the people aren’t warned, and the sword comes and takes away their lives, then they have been taken away because of their iniquity, but I will hold the watchman accountable for their blood”* (Ezekiel 33:2-6). Like me, I’m guessing that many of you picked up on the “spiritual overtones” as you read that. As followers, of Jesus, we are watchmen to the world! We’re called to warn the world that their sin has separated them from God; and, they’re in grave danger unless they repent & turn to Jesus! The parallels between being a watchman; and, being a disciple-maker, are unmistakable! God gave Old

Testament Israel’s watchmen a specific responsibility, a precise message; and, a notice of accountability. As His disciple-makers, Jesus has also given us a specific responsibility, a precise message; and, a notice of accountability. And, God’s oracle, to Ezekiel, is that God had a part, the watchman had a part; and, the people had a part! Again, the parallels for making disciples are obvious! In the making of a disciple, there is the disciple’s part, there is God’s part; and, there is our part! And, like the watchman, we are only responsible for our part! I think the concept is pretty easy to follow, isn’t it? God gave the watchman a specific responsibility. He had only 1 responsibility! He was responsible for warning the people of danger. It was typical for each city to have a group of watchmen, posted on the city walls, looking for any army that might be advancing against them; and, to warn the people with a trumpet blast, should an enemy be spotted approaching! His job was vital to the well-being of the people; and, he was only responsible for his part. If he blew the trumpet and the people failed to respond then he was absolved of any guilt should their lives be lost. Their blood was on their own hands! But, if the watchman fell asleep on the job; and, an army slipped in, then the blood of those who lost their lives, because of his negligence, would be on his hands! The analogy between watchmen and believers today is self-evident!

Jesus’ Commission To Us—

Remember what Jesus said to His disciples when He commissioned them: *“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe everything I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age”* Matthew 28:18-20. As Jesus’ disciples, we’ve been given a specific responsibility, church! *“Make disciples!”* That’s the imperative; or, the command! *“Go”* is not the command! *“Make disciples”* is the command! That’s our part! As our Creator, Savior; and, King, Jesus has the authority to send us! The making of disciples is done in the powerful name of the Triune Godhead—Father, Son; and, Spirit! Jesus paid for sin on the cross so that anyone could become His disciple! That’s God’s part! Our part is to share the Gospel! The unbeliever is responsible to believe!

“Greeting Team”

For Sunday, October 3

Remember: Meet in the coat room @ **10:30 am** for brief prayer & then go “welcome” people! NOTE: Keep an eye on the auditorium for those who slipped past!

Greeters this week:

Erickson Thursday Night;
Jen Hagler Thurs

- 1st— Erickson Thursday PM;
Jen Hagler Thursday PM
- 2nd— Terry Embke Monday Night;
- 3rd—Randy Ehlers Sunday Night;
Donna Ehlers Monday Morning
- 4th—Curt Mastbergen Sunday Noon;
Tackett Sunday Night

Small Groups @ MBC

*Offer Spiritual Accountability
And Instruction*

-Guide To: Small Group Ministry
@ MBC

Announcements

1. Looking For A Great Place To Do Bible Study? Checkout www.preceptaustin.org
2. Signed Up For “RightNow Media”? Text “RIGHTNOW MORNINGSIDEBBC” to 41411 to sign up!