

A Costly Commitment

- The supernatural work of Jesus _____ about His identity.
- The truth of the gospel brings _____
- The conviction of sin often _____ toward those who speak truth.
- An unwillingness to obey truth leads to _____

Faithfully obeying Jesus' call to love others wisely with grace and truth is

_____ but _____

- We must understand that we are entering a fallen world of broken people who _____
- We must realize that Jesus will be attractive to others only when they see Him as a _____ of their current love(s).
- We must accept that we will be resisted by those who see Jesus, His truth, and His messengers as _____ with what they love.
- We must trust Jesus and the transforming power of His Word and _____ His call to go and make disciples.

Personal observations from the message.

1. How would you summarize what you learned in a sentence or two?
2. What was something you didn't know or were reminded of?
3. What point or verse did you find most helpful? Why?
4. What is a question you have?
5. What is an action step you will take?

Discussion questions from the message.

1. What big commitments have you made in your life? What have been the costs associated with those commitments? Which ones were worth the cost? Why?
2. Read Mark 6:14-15. Why do you suppose there was so much confusion about the identity of Jesus? What are some ways people confuse the identity of Jesus today?
3. Read Mark 16-20. Why does it seem that Herod thought John the Baptist had risen from the dead? What did Herodias want done to John? What did Herod do instead? How do you suppose this disagreement played out in their marriage? How does a guilty conscience impact us? What are things we do, don't do? How does guilt impact us internally?
4. Read Mark 6:21-23. Who was at the birthday party? What seems to be the nature of the dance that pleased the king and his guests so much and led to such a generous offer?
5. Read Mark 6:24-29. What does Herodias' option for her daughter to have almost anything in the kingdom and her choice of John's head teach us about how sin and guilt mess up our thinking? Why do you suppose Herod was "exceedingly sorry" about this? What does his willingness to give in to the request teach us – about Herod? About our desire to please others? How do you think the presence of John's head on a platter impacted the party?
6. What does this passage teach us about what we should expect when we speak God's truth to unbelievers? What creates the hostility that God's Word brings?
7. What will cause someone to exchange the current controlling love(s) of their heart for Jesus? Why is Jesus a worthy replacement? Is He the controlling love of your heart? Do you love Him enough to accept the cost of faithfully obeying Jesus' call to GO? What's the evidence?