



# WELCOME BACK

***Be Strong and Courageous***

**1 Chronicles 28:20**

# Be Strong and Courageous

## WHY?

*Jesus came and told his disciples, “I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”* Matthew 28:18-20

**THEREFORE — Go, Baptize, and Teach is the KEY to unlocking our power and authority to live as a disciple of Jesus Christ.**

Matthew 6:33

**Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need.**

**THEREFORE — God must be FIRST in our thoughts and actions.**

# What is a Disciple

## ▶ What does it mean to bear the cross? “It means dying to self”

- A disciple must love Jesus more than anyone or anything else.
- A disciple must take up the cross and follow Jesus.
- A disciple must turn the title deed of their life over to Christ.
- A disciple must impact their culture.
- A disciple will bring forth spiritual fruit.

*“And whoever does not bear his cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple.” — Luke 14:27 NKJV*

# Hearts on Fire

## Scripture Reading

Matthew 28:16-20; Luke 24:44-53; Acts 4: 1-22; Jeremiah 20:7-11

***If I say, “I will not mention him [The Lord] or speak anymore in his name,” there is in my heart as it were a burning fire shut up in my bones, and I am weary with holding it in, and I cannot. (Jeremiah 20:9, ESV)***

# DO YOU HAVE HEARTBURN?

- ▶ **Jeremiah's heart burned (Jer 5:14, 23:29)**
- ▶ **David's heart burned (Psalms 39:3, 119:53)**
- ▶ **The two on the way to Emmaus had hearts that burned (Lk. 24:32)**

# Is Your Fire Going Out?

- ▶ **Reduced Hunger for Truth (2 Tim.4:2-3?)**
- ▶ **Reduced Involvement in the Lord's Work (Matthew 25:25)**

# Hearts on Fire

- ▶ **Hearts on Fire (Zeal, Desire, Hunger) will accomplish much good. (John 2:17)**
- ▶ **Hearts on Fire (Zeal) will stir up others (2 Cor.9:2)**

**Will you be a Bold Witness?**



# Will you be a bold Witness?



## ▶ Scottie Scheffler

When Scottie Scheffler after his Masters triumph, after becoming only the second golfer in history to win two Masters championships in his first five years on the tour, shot 29 on the back nine at the 2024 Olympics, we wanted to talk about it. We still talk about Jack's Nicklaus's back nine at Augusta in 1986.

C. S. Lewis captured it perfectly when he wrote, ***“I think we delight to praise what we enjoy because the praise not merely expresses but completes the enjoyment.”*** As usual, Lewis gets it right! We have an inner compulsion to verbalize our feelings of worth toward someone of value or for an extraordinary accomplishment by another.

It seems that when the opportunity comes for us to share how wonderful God is, we are not as enthusiastic. ***Many reasons keep Christians from telling others about Jesus: fear of rejection, feelings of inadequacy, lack of time building trusted friendships, etc.***

# How Are We Doing?

- ▶ What defines me: ***"I believe in Jesus. Ultimately I think that's what defines me most"***.
  - ▶ Why I play golf: ***"The reason why I play golf is I'm trying to glorify God and all that He's done in my life"***.
  - ▶ My focus: ***"I've been called to come out here, do my best, compete and glorify God"***.
  - ▶ My victory is secure: ***"My buddies told me this morning, my victory was secure on the cross"***.
  - ▶ Jesus, not golf: ***"Jesus, not golf, defines me"***.
  - ▶ Golf will pass away: ***"Golf will pass away, but Jesus will forever be there"***.
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- ▶ Scheffler has also dedicated his wins to God.

# Are we Afraid of Persecution?

Sadly, many reasons keep Christians from telling others about Jesus: fear of rejection, feelings of inadequacy, lack of time building trusted friendships, etc.

*If we spend time worshipping him in the beauty of holiness, we will soon find ourselves expressing our love for him to others.*

- ▶ **1. Confident witnesses are filled with the Holy Spirit.**
- ▶ **2. Spirit-filled witnesses obey God rather than men, even under the threat of persecution or death.**
- ▶ **3. Confident witnesses have spent much time with Jesus and learned from Him.**

# WHERE IS YOUR HEART...

## Commending What We Cherish

- ▶ If I say, *“I will not mention him [The Lord] or speak anymore in his name,”* there is in my heart as it were a burning fire shut up in my bones, and I am weary with holding it in, and I cannot. (Jeremiah 20:9, ESV)

# The Disciplines of a Disciple

- ▶ **“Success or failure in the Christian life is dependent on how much of the Bible you get into your heart and mind on a daily basis and how obedient you are to it.” — Pastor Greg Laurie**

# ABIDE

***If you remain (abide) in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.*** John 15: 7-8

# Discussion Questions

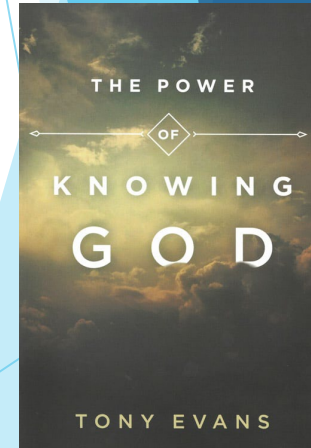
Matthew 28:16-20; Luke 24:44-53; Acts 4: 1-22; Jeremiah 20:7-11

- ▶ **1. Recall those moments when you had a hole-in-one, a double eagle, or a long string of birdies (or other examples).**
- ▶ **Who did you tell and why? What was the level of joy?**
- ▶ **2. Immerse yourself in these texts and ask, “What turned these timid men into bold witnesses for Christ Jesus? Think through multiple reasons for such a radical transformation**
- ▶ **3. How might our lives move from timidity about Jesus Christ to becoming bold and winsome witnesses for him in our family, in our communities?**

# What's Next?

## The Power of Knowing God

- ▶ You go to church, you read the Bible, you participate in small groups—but do you truly know God?
- ▶ Prioritize God over all else—and how doing so will transform you from the inside out.
  - Experience a soul-deep closeness with God
  - Practice relying on God instead of yourself
  - Find your identity and purpose in belonging to Him





# Men's Ministry Bible Studies

- ▶ **WHEN: Thursdays, 9:00am**
- ▶ **WHERE: Family Room**
  
- ▶ **All men are welcome to join us as we pursue the true life Jesus has for us!**
  
- ▶ **COFFEE, DONUTS AND FELLOWSHIP!**
  
- ▶ **See you next Thursday!! Bring a friend**

# CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE

## Updates:

- ▶ **Schedule**
- ▶ **Opportunities in Men Ministry**
- ▶ **Interested in working with the ministry activities and/or community outreach projects**

## Need Prayer?

- ▶ **God wants to hear from you no matter what you're going through. We'd love to pray with and for you and help you strengthen your relationship with God. Fill out the prayer request form on the website and let our prayer warriors pray for you and your needs.**

**Our site is continuously updated with program activities**

▶ **DSCMEN.ORG**

# CLOSING PRAYER

(IN UNISON)

Heavenly Father, thank you for helping me understand the importance of abiding in a relationship with you. Abiding in Jesus is the most important thing I can do. I want to experience a deep, meaningful relationship that brings me love and care. Encourage me throughout the day by reminding me of Your presence so that I can keep growing in my connection with You as well as proclaiming you to others and strengthening their walk.

In Christ's name, amen.