

Luka 4:21-30

"Nakupa amri mpya: Upendane.

Kama nilivyowapenda ninyi, hivyo pia lazima mpendane.

Hii ndio jinsi kila mtu atakavyojua kuwa wewe ni wanafunzi wangu, unapopendana." Yohana 13:34-35

Kanisa linamwamini Yesu alipewa kwa ajili ya fursa yao wenyewe, kwa ajili ya faraja yao wenyewe. Yesu anawaambia kuwa Anakuja kwa namna ya Eliya na Elisha, si kwa fursa ya Israeli au Nazareti. Israeli ni kuwa mwanga kwa mataifa. Mungu ni upande wa wale waliopunguzwa, na kwa Israeli kuishi kulingana na uchaguzi wake yeye, pia, lazima awe upande wa wale waliopotea! Kwa hiyo kusoma kwa Isaya kutoka Isaya. Kanisa lilitaka kuwa juu yao. Yesu anasema wanapaswa kuwa juu ya wengine. Walikamatwa katika maneno ya "sisi au wao" ya binary. Yesu anawaambia sio "sisi au wao" ni "sisi kwao." (D. Quanstrom, 2019).

Kwa njia ya ulinzi na ufafanuzi wa mstari alikuwa amechukua, Yesu anasema yaliyotokea katika siku za manabii wakuu Eliya na Elisha, na kwa kufanya hivyo anajitambulisha Mwenyewe na manabii. Eliya alitumwa ili kumsaidia mjane-lakini si Myahudi. Elisha aliponya mtu mwenye ukoma mwenye pekee-na mwenye ukoma alikuwa jemadari wa jeshi la adui. Ndivyo ilivyofanya hivyo. Hiyo ndiyo iliyowafukuza kwa ghadhabu. Mungu wa Israeli alikuwa akiwaokoa watu wasiofaa (N.T. Wright, 2004).

Februari Kumfuata Kristo:

Fungua moyo wako na akili yako kwa Yesu. Mpendeni, na kumruhusu wakati na chumba cha kuzungumza katika maisha yako. Hebu akufundishe, na kutokana na uzoefu huo, ujue na mtu na usikie moyo wao. Shiriki uzoefu wako na Mchungaji katika note ndogo.

Wiki ijayo: *Luka 5:1-11*

Luke 4:21-30

"I give you a new commandment: Love each other.

Just as I have loved you, so you also must love each other.

This is how everyone will know you are My disciples, when you love each other." John 13:34-35

The assembly believes Jesus was given for their own privilege, for their own comfort. Jesus tells them that He comes in the manner of Elijah and Elisha, not with privilege for Israel or Nazareth. Israel is to be a light to the nations. God is on the side of the marginalized, and for Israel to live up to her election she, too, must be on the side of the marginalized! Hence Jesus' reading from Isaiah. The congregation wanted it to be about them. Jesus says they should be about others. They were stuck in a binary "us or them" phrase of mind. Jesus tells them it's not "us or them" it is "us for them." (D. Quanstrom, 2019).

By way of defense and explanation for the line He had been taking, Jesus points out what happened in the days of the great prophets Elijah and Elisha, and in so doing so identifies Himself with the prophets. Elijah was sent to help a widow—but not a Jewish one. Elisha healed one solitary leper—and the leper was the commander of the enemy army. That's what did it. That's what drove them to fury. Israel's God was rescuing the wrong people (N.T. Wright, 2004).

February Discipleship:

Open your heart and mind to Jesus. Love Him, and allow Him time and room to speak into your life. Let Him disciple you, and out of that experience, get acquainted with someone and hear their heart. Share your experience with Pastor in a short note.

Next week: *Luke 5:1-11*

Februari 3, 2019 Alijazwa na Roho Mtakatifu—Pt 2

MASOMO YA MAANDIKO YA WIKI HII:

Leo: *Zaburi 71:1-6*

Jumatatu: *Yeremia 6:1-16*

Jumanne: *Matthayo 11:25-30*

Jumatano: *Zaburi 116:1-7*

Alhamisi: *Isaya 40: 27-31*

Ijumaa: *Marko 6: 30-42*

Jumamosi: *Waebrania 4: 1-11*

Sikilizeni kilio changu, Ee Mungu; kusikiliza sala yangu. Kutoka mwisho wa dunia ninakuita kwako, wakati moyo wangu ukitisha. Nipelekeze kwenye mwamba ulio juu kuliko mimi; kwa maana wewe ndio uhamisho wangu, mnara wenye nguvu dhidi ya adui. Napenda kukaa katika hema yako milele, na kupata kimbilio katika makao ya mabawa yako. Zaburi 61:1-4

February 3, 2019 Filled With the Holy Spirit—Pt 2

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THIS WEEK:

Today: *Psalm 71:1-6*

Monday: *Jeremiah 6:1-16*

Tuesday: *Matthew 11:25-30*

Wednesday: *Psalm 116:1-7*

Thursday: *Isaiah 40:27-31*

Friday: *Mark 6:30-42*

Saturday: *Hebrews 4:1-11*

Hear my cry O God; listen to my prayer. From the end of the earth I call to You, when my heart is faint. Lead me to the rock that is higher than I; for You are my refuge, a strong tower against the enemy. Let me abide in Your tent forever, and find refuge in the shelter of Your wings. Psalm 61:1-4