

Machi 3, 2019

Walipokuwa Wakiomba

Luka 9:28-43a

Kwa wengi, maono makubwa na uzoefu wa kiroho ni sawa na madai makubwa. Kwa wazi zaidi sisi ni kwa Mungu, na kwa vipimo tofauti vya utukufu wa Mungu, zaidi tunaonekana kuwa wazi kwa maumivu ya ulimwengu. Tuna haki ya kuwa na wasiwasi wakati tunarudi kutoka kwenye ibada kuu ya ibada, tunapoinuka kutoka wakati wa sala ambayo Mungu ameonekana karibu na upendo wake halisi na wenye nguvu. Mambo haya hayajawahi kwa ajili yao wenyewe, bali ili, kama tulivyo na vifaa vyao, Mungu anaweza kututumia ndani ya ulimwengu wake wenye shida (N.T. Wright, 2004).

Isipokuwa tukiondoka kwenye ngome ya nafasi yetu ya ibada, na kumkemea roho mchafu ya mamlaka ambayo yamekuwa, na kutoa mwanga katika maisha ya masikini na matatizo ya jamii zetu, hatuwezi kujua maana ya uhamisho wa mabadiliko. Utukufu utakuwa neno lisilojulikana na uzoefu. Ikiwa kwa jina na kwa neema ya Mungu hatuwezi kuwaponya wavulana na wasichana wa watu wetu, hatutajua kamwe kile utukufu uliojumuishia na hatuwezi "kushangaa kwa ukuu wa Mungu" (Cláudio Carvalhaes, 2016).

Luka ni mwandishi tu wa Injili akigawana wakati huu wa sala:

- Roho Mtakatifu anatoka kama Yesu anavyoomba (3:21-22)
- Wanafunzi waliochaguliwa baada ya usiku mzima wa kuomba (6:12-16)
- Petro anamtambua Yesu kama Masihi-baada ya sala (9:18-20)

Machi Kumfuata Kristo:

Je! Unaungana na watu nje ya ibada ya Jumapili, wanaomba watakua katika imani yao? Tuma barua ya faraja. Shiriki nao kile Bwana anachokufundisha!

Mungu anaongea na sisi, “*Huyu ni Mwanangu ... Sikilizeni Yeye.*”

Nani tutaungana na kumsikiliza Yesu?

Tutaitikiaje mahitaji na changamoto za maisha yetu?

Wiki ijayo: *Luka 4, Jumapili ya kwanza ya Lent*

March 3, 2019

While They Were Praying

Luke 9:28-43a

For many, dramatic visions and spiritual experiences are balanced by huge demands. The more open we are to God, and to the different dimensions of God’s glory, the more we seem to be open to the pain of the world. We are right to be wary when we return from some great worship service, when we rise from a time of prayer in which God has seemed close and His love real and powerful. These things are never given for their own sake, but so that, as we are equipped by them, God can use us within His needy world (N.T. Wright, 2004).

Unless we get out of the fortress of our worship space, and rebuke the unclean spirits of the powers that be, and shed light into the lives of the poor and troubles of our communities, we will never know what transfiguration means. Glory will be an unknown word and experience. If in the name and by the grace of God we cannot heal the boys and girls of our people, we will never know what shared glory looks like and we will never be “astounded at the greatness of God” (Cláudio Carvalhaes, 2016).

Luke is the only Gospel writer to share these times of prayer:

- Holy Spirit descends as Jesus is praying (3:21-22)
- Disciples chosen after an entire night of praying (6:12-16)
- Peter recognizes Jesus as Messiah—after prayer (9:18-20)

March Discipleship:

Are you connecting with people outside of Sunday worship, praying they will grow in their faith? Send a note of encouragement. Share with them what the Lord is teaching you!

God speaks to us, “*This is My Son... Listen to Him.*”

With whom will we listen to Jesus?

How will we respond to the needs and challenges of our lives?

Next week: *Luka 4, First Sunday of Lent*

Machi 3, 2019

Walipokuwa Wakiomba

MASOMO YA MAANDIKO YA WIKI HII:

Leo: *Zaburi 99*

Jumatatu: *Mathayo 17:1-8*

Jumanne: *Isaya 42:1-9*

Jumatano: *Warumi 12:1-2*

Alhamisi: *Warumi 12:9-13*

Ijumaa: *Warumi 12:14-21*

Jumamosi: *Wakolosai 3:12-17*

Baba yetu, Ni nani aliye mbinguni, Jina lako litukuzwe. Ufalme wako uje, mapenzi yako yafanyike, duniani kama ilivyo mbinguni. Tupe leo chakula chetu cha kila siku, na kutusamehe makosa yetu, kama tunavyowasamehe wale wanaotukosea. Na usiingie katika majaribu, bali utuokoe na uovu. Kwa maana ufalme ni wako, na nguvu, na utukufu milele, Amina.

March 3, 2019

While They Were Praying

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THIS WEEK:

Today: *Psalms 99*

Monday: *Matthew 17:1-8*

Tuesday: *Isaiah 42:1-9*

Wednesday: *Romans 12:1-2*

Thursday: *Romans 12:9-13*

Friday: *Romans 12:14-21*

Saturday: *Colossians 3:12-17*

Our Father, Who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever, Amen.