

## Be Real

Pain and struggle can make us feel unusable. We feel small or scarred or imperfect. We may be those things, but God uses people just like us everyday.

Scripture(s): 2 Corinthians 2:12-3:6

I. The first way that God reveals that he uses our real life to reach people for Him is by depending upon Him for our open \_\_\_\_\_. Open eyes will see \_\_\_\_\_ working in new ways.

Acts 16:6 They passed through the Phrygian and Galatian region, having been forbidden by the Holy Spirit to speak the word in Asia; 7 and after they came to Mysia, they were trying to go into Bithynia, and the Spirit of Jesus did not permit them; 8 and passing by Mysia, they came down to Troas. 9 A vision appeared to Paul in the night: a man of Macedonia was standing and appealing to him, and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." 10 When he had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go into Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them.

✓ Look for the doors that God is \_\_\_\_\_ for your ministry today. Seek it!

II. The second way that God uses us to reach people for Him is by letting people see \_\_\_\_\_. People will see Jesus first in \_\_\_\_\_ before they see Him in the \_\_\_\_\_.

Ephesians 5:2 and walk in love, just as Christ also loved you and gave Himself up for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God as a fragrant aroma.

Philippians 4:18 But I have received everything in full and have an abundance; I am amply supplied, having received from Epaphroditus what you have sent, a fragrant aroma, an acceptable sacrifice, well-pleasing to God.

✓ Lead people to Jesus through your \_\_\_\_\_ life and not some put-up job or insincere \_\_\_\_\_.

III. The third way that God uses us to reach people for Him is by using our witness through \_\_\_\_\_. Investing in others extends our ministry \_\_\_\_\_ beyond us.

1 Corinthians 3:10 According to the grace of God which was given to me, like a wise master builder I laid a foundation, and another is building on it. But each man must be careful how he builds on it.

2 Corinthians 12:15 I will most gladly spend and be expended for your souls. If I love you more, am I to be loved less?

✓ Invest your life in \_\_\_\_\_, not plans or success.

IV. The fourth way that God reveals that He uses us to reach people for Him is when we depend upon His \_\_\_\_\_. God is not interested in how much we think we can do for Him. God wants us to be willing for Him to use us as He sees \_\_\_\_\_.

2 Corinthians 4:5 For we do not preach ourselves but Christ Jesus as Lord, and ourselves as your bond-servants for Jesus' sake. 6 For God, who said, "Light shall shine out of darkness," is the One who has shone in our hearts to give the Light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ. 7 But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, so that the surpassing greatness of the power will be of God and not from ourselves;

✓ Do not look for ways to serve God that you feel \_\_\_\_\_ doing. Look for ways to serve God that are needed to be \_\_\_\_\_.

Remember this - God uses \_\_\_\_\_ people in their \_\_\_\_\_ lives to reach others for Christ.

Our challenge: Let our spoken willingness become \_\_\_\_\_ that God will use.

May 31, 2020

"My Country, Tis of Thee" 634

"Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory" 633

"Beautiful One"

\* Pastoral Prayer & Children's Sermon \*

"Jesus, Draw Me Close"