

NEW HOPE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
ZOOM BIBLE STUDY NOTES - 5/20/20
RECAP LESSON

2020 THEME: BRINGING THE MESSAGE AND MISSION OF CHRIST INTO
SHARPER FOCUS

- This is what Jesus himself was doing in Lk.4:18,19:Early in his ministry he announces his Ministry Mandate, Isaiah 61:1-3: *“The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon Me, Because the LORD has anointed Me To preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives, And the opening of the prison to those who are bound; To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, And the day of vengeance of our God; To comfort all who mourn, To console those who mourn in Zion, To give them beauty for ashes, The oil of joy for mourning, The garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; That they may be called trees of righteousness, The planting of the LORD, that He may be glorified.”*
- Impressed and Inspired that JESUS WOULD NOT LET OTHERS DEFINE HIM, His Message or His Mission....Well wishers said. He’s one of the former prophets who has returned, some detractors/enemies said: He is the son of the devil; some zealots had violent overthrow on their minds for setting people of God free from oppression, but He said:”Kingdom is not of this world”: Some saw his miracles as magic, sorcery...others deemed it proof He is the deliverer with authority from heaven....
- He Defined Himself, sticking to His Message and His Mission...
 - Kept His Disciples close, gave them up close and personal time and attention...Invested in them knowledge, wisdom & understanding...Jesus wanted His True Disciples to Get Him, see Him as He really is, to see His Light, follow His Lead....
 - Matthew 16:13-18 - Jesus to His Disciples - *“When Jesus came into the region of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, saying, “Who do men say that I, the Son of Man, am?” So they said, “Some say John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Simon Peter answered and said, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” Jesus answered and said to him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven. And I also*

say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.”

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- Matthew 28:18,19 *“And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” Amen.”*

• THE BATTLE FOR YOUR MIND

- Philippians 2:2-11 - *“...fulfill my joy by being like-minded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others. Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”*
- We always look at How Daunting a Task/ Impossible Challenge to take on the Mind of Christ....but that’s why he gives us his Holy Spirit...that’s why he Dwells With Us, rather than just visit us....There are some who have had a visitation of the Spirit, but they won’t let Him Dwell....[Lk 24:29...Two believers, traveling together with saddened hearts over the death of Jesus, when they met him after the resurrection and realized who he was, they said, Don’t be in a hurry to leave,

stay with us, abide with us....and he tarried with them for a while, hearts went from sadness to gladness as he talked with them, shared more of His Word with them, until their hearts starting burning within...]

- Instead of being put off by the challenge of taking on His Mind... think about what He had to do to pour His holiness, his perfection into flesh to dwell among us... What Love, What a Sacrifice for the Divine to wrap himself up in Dust...The Word became flesh to come be Emmanuel, God with us...Humble, though Sovereign in his power and authority ...The Ruler of the Universe thought it not robbery to take on the form of a servant....
- And yet, we who have no claim to righteousness apart from Him, no reason to glory in ourselves, have to go through a transformation to become an humble servant who has the capacity to love others as ourselves, to put others before ourselves...
- Jesus to His Disciples: Mt. 23:11,12 - “...*he that is greatest among you shall be your servant. And whosoever shall exalt himself so be abased; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted.*“
- *WHAT A MIRACLE OF LOVE WAS THE INCARNATION...It should make us so much more willing to serve in any way we can....and allow the Holy Spirit to be at work continually to transform us into being like Christ.*
- *PAUL TO THE PHILIPPIANS - “...fulfill my joy, be like-minded, have the same love, be on one accord, of one mind (get self, selfishness out of the way...”)*
- *This Admonishment mirrors the Prayer of our Lord, Jn. 17:11-13;20-23; 26... “Now I am no longer in the world, but*

these are in the world, and I come to You. Holy Father, keep through Your name those whom You have given Me, that they may be one as We are. While I was with them in the world, I kept them in Your name. Those whom You gave Me I have kept; and none of them is lost except the son of perdition, that the Scripture might be fulfilled. But now I come to You, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have My joy fulfilled in themselves.

- *“I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me. And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one: I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me.*
- *And I have declared to them Your name, and will declare it, that the love with which You*
- *loved Me may be in them, and I in them.”*
- **THERE MUST BE TRANSFORMATION TO ACHIEVE THIS ONENESS....Jesus to Nichodemus..”You must be born again, born of the Spirit”....Lk 9:23-“He said to them all...If anyone desires to come after me, let him deny himself, take up his cross and follow me.”...Sermon on the Mount - Mt6:24...”No one can serve two Masters...”.....Neither be hypocrites...people who do good, charitable deeds, but do it for the glory of men, sounding their own trumpet... they have their reward”...**
- **Oneness, Unity, Communion with Christ, Christlikeness...requires Oneness with him, His Message, His Mission...can’t have split loyalties, split personalities...Mark 12:28-34 “Then one of the scribes came, and having heard them reasoning together, perceiving that He had answered them well, asked Him, “Which is the first commandment of all?”**

Jesus answered him, “The first of all the commandments is: ‘Hear, O Israel, the LORD our God, the LORD is one. And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.’ This is the first commandment. And the second, like it, is this: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.” So the scribe said to Him, “Well said, Teacher. You have spoken the truth, for there is one God, and there is no other but He. And to love Him with all the heart, with all the understanding, with all the soul, and with all the strength, and to love one’s neighbor as oneself, is more than all the whole burnt offerings and sacrifices.” Now when Jesus saw that he answered wisely, He said to him, “You are not far from the kingdom of God.” But after that no one dared question Him.”

- TO ACHIEVE ONENESS WITH CHRIST...HAVE TO BE PREPARED TO SURRENDER ALL (heart, mind, soul, strength) - All is a lot...ACTUALLY IT’S EVERYTHING
- JESUS PRAYING THIS PRAYER AS HE IS PREPARING TO DEPART - because the greatest threat to the Unity, the Oneness he has been trying to achieve...is that when He is out of Sight....they will lose their FOCUS.

- THUS...LAST WEEK, OUR LESSON TOPIC, THE DISCIPLES’ CHRIST CENTERED FOCUS
- Hebrews 12:1-4(NKJV)...A message from Paul that ties in the challenge of the former disciples and disciples today... *“Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. For consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners against*

Himself, lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls. You have not yet resisted to bloodshed, striving against sin.”

- Cares of the world; vicissitudes of life dull our focus, disturb our peace when we take our minds, our eyes off the Master...
- Paul: *“Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God.” (Philippians 4:6)*
- Sin snares us...we are stalked by the adversary, like Jesus himself was stalked, trying to get us off message, throw us off our mission...Stay focused, don't be easy ...James 4:7...*“Resist Satan and he will flee from you”*..Paul: I Cor 10:13...*We are not tempted beyond the strength the Lord gives us to resist....God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to Bear it..“*
- **JESUS STAYED FOCUSED ON HIS MISSION THROUGH EVERYTHING HE HAD TO ENDURE....HE IS THE AUTHOR AND FINISHER OF OUR FAITH**
- JUDE 24 - *“Now unto him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy....”*