

A close-up photograph of vibrant green grass blades, each covered with numerous clear, glistening water droplets. The lighting is bright, highlighting the texture of the grass and the individual droplets.

E38

2017 MESSAGE SERIES

38 ESSENTIAL PASSAGES IN UNDERSTANDING GOD'S STORY, THEIR STORY, & YOUR STORY.

“All the people in the synagogue **were furious** when they heard this. They got up, drove him (Jesus) out of the town, and took him to the edge of the hill on which the town was built, in order to ***throw him off the cliff***. But he walked right through the crowd and went on his way.” Luke 4:28-30

“Repent, for the Kingdom of God has come!”

Repent = a calling for Change!

How do you **respond** when the Holy Spirit reveals an area of **your heart** that God wants **to change**?

Blame

Excuse

Deflect

Deny

Defensive

“So many people today have built walls around themselves and never look within themselves and ask the question, ‘Where does change, growth, and maturity need to happen in me?’”

-Gordon MacDonald



How do you **respond** when the Holy Spirit reveals an area of **your heart** that God wants **to change**?

Real Change:

we all need it, many reject it, some embrace it, and why it matters so much!

Big idea:

*Change in me is more
important than
change around me!*

Luke 4: 14-30...

the *URGENCY* for change:

the *SOURCE* of change:

our *RESPONSE* to change:



Sources: AP, ESRI



The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me...

“Aliens **will rebuild** the ancient ruins
and restore the places long devastated;

Strangers will shepherd your flocks;
foreigners **will work** your fields and
vineyards.

You will feed on the **wealth** of nations,
and in their **riches** you will boast.” Isa 61: 8-10

“Isaiah’s vision of the messianic age would naturally be attractive to the nationalistic hopes of the people of Nazareth. With the coming of the anointed one of God, now all the hard work would be done by the foreigners, and then the people of Nazareth would become wealthy and powerful, thanks to the labor of others.”

-Kenneth E. Bailey

Then he stated, “You’ve just seen and heard a prophecy come true. It is happening right now at this time in this place.”

The Message,
Eugene Peterson

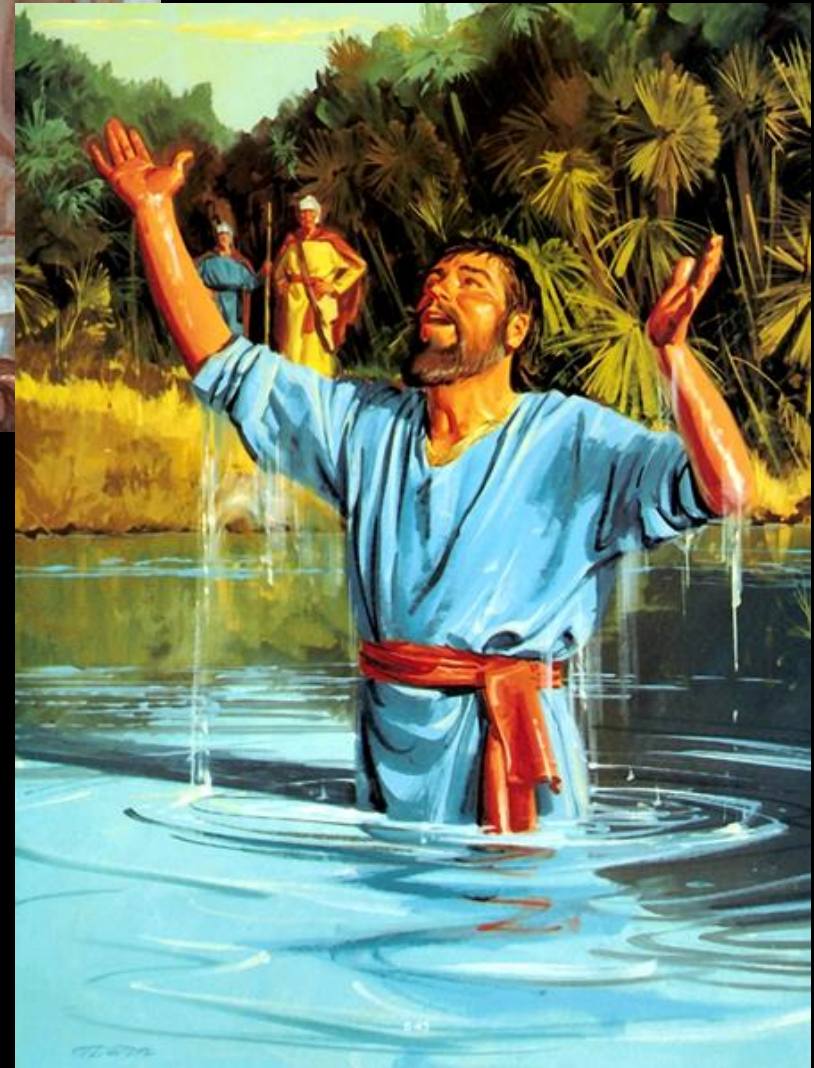
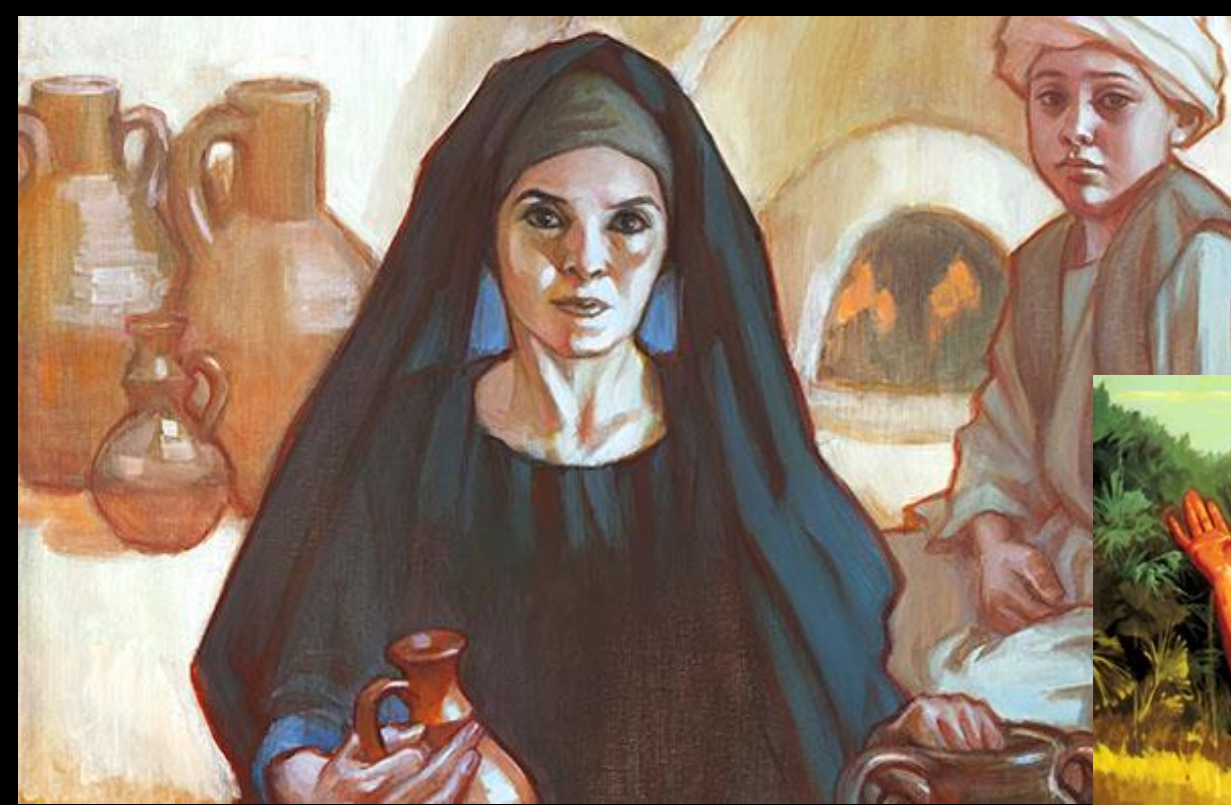
“In our modern language, the essence of what Jesus is saying is, ‘I want you to know I’m not looking at the surface of your lives - where people categorize you in terms of your car, job, degree, the money you have or the clothes you wear....I’m looking right at the center of **your souls**. Men and women, do you know what I see? I see **poverty, imprisonment, blindness** and **enslavement**. Yes, I come to speak to people like you!’”

-Gordon MacDonald



*“For you know the **grace** of our Lord **Jesus** Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich.” 2. Cor. 8:9*





Faith

Humility

Transferable principle...

Jesus is still revealing to people who gather in places of worship their need for change.

“As a preacher in a local church for more than 20 years, I have come to realize that each week I lock eyes with Christians who are...

STRUGGLING

HURTING

STRESSING

CHEATING

LUSTING

OVER SPENDING

WORRYING

QUITTING

MEDICATING

AVOIDING

SEARCHING

DECEIVING.

And by looking at them you would never know it.”

-Kyle Idle

Transferable principle...

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How do I **respond** when the Holy Spirit reveals an area of **my heart** that God wants **to change**?

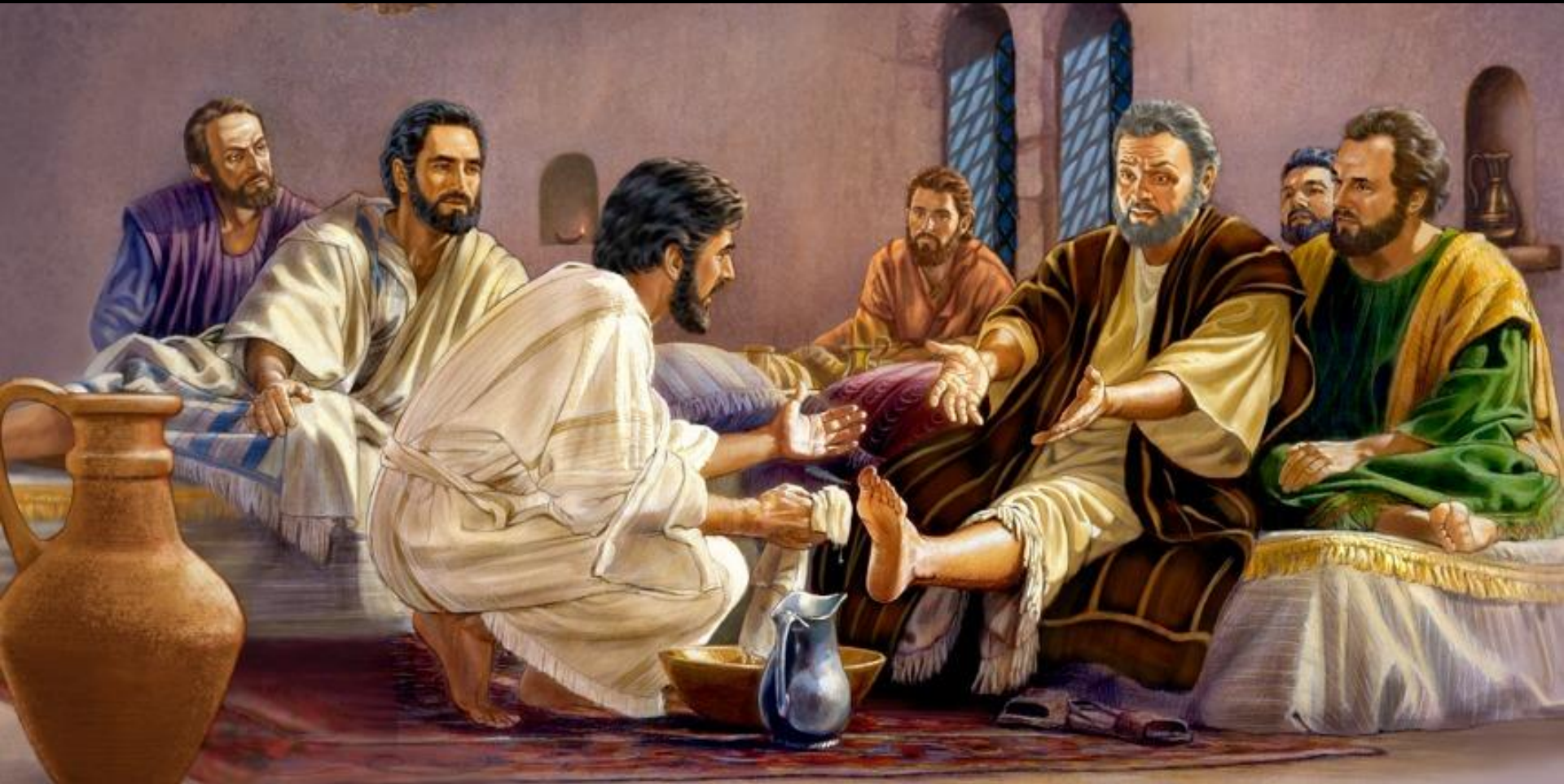
Big idea:

*Change in me is more
important than
change around me!*

Critical Questions we must ask...

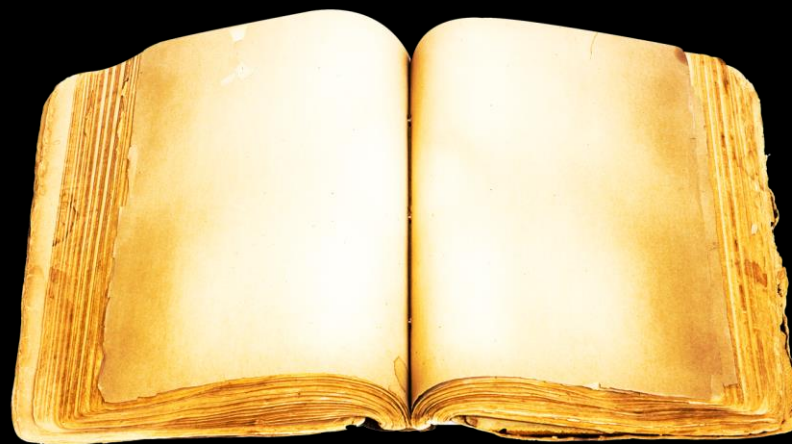
How do I respond when God
doesn't meet my expectations?

Faithful or Fickle



Critical Questions we must ask...

Do I trust my faithfulness to a faith community or do I cling to the finished and complete work of Christ?



Critical Questions we must ask...

Have I come to terms with what
Jesus says is the true state of my
internal condition before God?



“...for it is out of the abundance of **the heart** that the mouth speaks.”

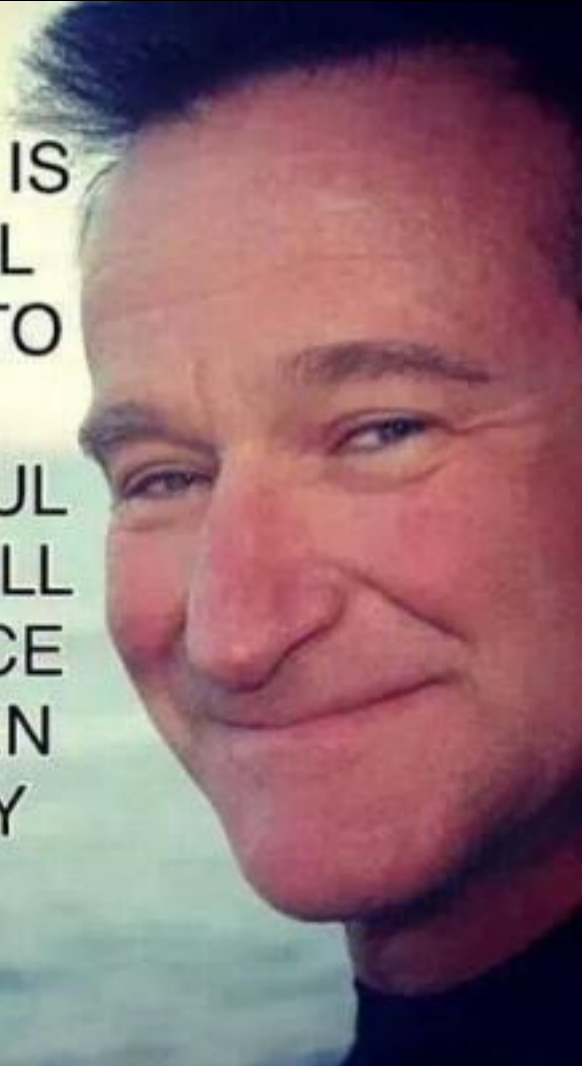
Luke

6:45

Critical Questions we must ask...

Do I value a religious image over
a soft heart of faith and humility?

ALL IT TAKES IS
A BEAUTIFUL
FAKE SMILE TO
HIDE AN
INJURED SOUL
AND THEY WILL
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