

Protagonists Anonymous Series
Julius
8/1/20
Newport News

Opening

-(communion elements reminder)

-When is the last time you said to someone or someone said to you, “Hey, did you do that on purpose?”

- What that means...
- (tell story of peeing in trash can as a child)
- on purpose and by mistake matters!

-While I never want my missteps to be on purpose, may it be that the life I live will never be by mistake!

-Are you living your life on purpose...intentionally pursuing God's destiny for you?

-Tonight's message is for young people, teenagers and young adults...if you are old like me you are welcome to stay but I want the next generation to pay close attention...

-(PRAY)

Introduction

-God has a plan for you!

- Acts 13:36
- Colossians 1:16
- Ephesians 2:10

- “God, I want your story to be my history.”

-1 Corinthians 16:5-24 (read verse 9) (all these people, living on purpose)

- Paul
- Timothy
- Apollos
- Stephanas
- Aquila and Pricilla

-God wants you to find "the wide open door for the great work He's called you to!" (destiny=compilation of purpose moments)

-And tonight's person in Biblical history is going to give us 4 disciplines you and I need to master if we are going live on purpose!

-1 Corinthians 16:13 (gives us these four disciplines)...**and we will see them demonstrated for us in Julius...**

The Story

-Acts 21...Paul is arrested

-Acts 22...Paul preaches to the angry mob

-Acts 23...Paul appears before the Jewish High Council

-Acts 24...Paul appears before Felix (local Governor)

-Acts 25...Paul appears before Festus (new local Governor) & King Agrippa

-Acts 26...Paul's appearance before Festus and Agrippa continues

-but during his arrest and subsequent trials, Paul requested that his case be heard in Rome, the right he had as a citizen of Rome.

-Acts 27/28...Paul's journey and the final 2 chapters of Acts

-read Acts 27:1-6 (Julius)

-read Acts 27:18-20 (hurricane)

-read Acts 27:27 (14 days)

-read Acts 27:30-38

-read Acts 27:42-44

Be On Guard

-Revelation 3:2-3 (same Greek word Paul uses for "on guard")

-to watch, to be cautious, to wake up!

-The first discipline to living life on purpose is being ON GUARD with whatever task you have been given today...your job, your chores, your homework, your volunteerism! Be faithful in all things because you never know when you are stepping into a wide open purpose door!

-Julius is one of the most important people in Paul's life as we just saw! But it began with an assignment that was the same he had done many times before.

(contrast with Paul...so supernatural, mystical, dramatic...just because it's NOT doesn't mean it ISN'T!)

-Acts 23:11...God told Paul he would preach the Gospel in Rome...and Julius was sent by God to make sure he made it there safely!

-Acts 28:1-10 (be patient, at some point God will show you)

Stand Firm In The Faith

-firm: persevere, persist, endure (tell story of Garret's explanation of swimming for a mile)

-faith: conviction of truth, belief (today's problem, standing & wrong!)

-(talk about the two together)

-Your faith in Someone must always be bigger than your hope in something.

-(preach...gotta have faith in the One who promises the purpose or hope will fail)

-Acts 27 verses 42-44 contrasted with verses 10-11

-Some of you are in the a relationship with God that looks more like verses 10-11 than it does verse 42-44!

-The second discipline to living life on purpose is STANDING FIRM in the faith that God knows what's best for you. He sees your entire future, and the boundaries in this Book are for your good and your destiny fulfilled!

-you have to decide who you are going to listen to young people...(talk...)

Be Courageous

-the phrase in the Greek literally reads “act like a man!”

-it means “bravery in action”

-(talk about the HS not letting me use Acts 27:42)

-Acts 28:11-14

-How much courage do you think it took for Julius to still turn him over to the authorities once they arrived in Rome?

-The third discipline to living life on purpose is to BE COURAGEOUS. When everyone else around you is taking the easy way out, cheating on tests, copying homework, lying on time cards, padding their expense accounts, being unfaithful in romantic relationships, and betraying the confidences of friends...you be courageous! God's destiny always requires courage! (talk about walking vs. standing...cancel culture)

Be Strong

-I love watching The World's Strongest Man competitions (favorite event in Chat)

-That's what this word means: power, vigor, brawn...with an emphasis on resisting...not so much about moving something but rather NOT being moved

-Ephesians 3:16

-Acts 27:3

-Can I just tell you something I have learned in life...the greatest strength, the most difficult brawn to build has nothing to do with our physical bodies, it's Christian character!

-You see, I think 1 Corinthians 16:14 is Paul giving us an explanation for what he means by strength...strength of character.

-(read virtues from Praxis book)

-The fourth discipline to living life on purpose is to BE STRONG. Young people, put on some spiritual muscle! If you haven't read Praxis, you are old enough to understand it! Start now...you are going to need all the strength you can to walk through the wide open door for the great work He has called you to!

Close

-Acts 28:30-31

-Julius made all this possible...living his life on purpose.

-Pastor Justin...