

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
204 ODESSA AVENUE – PITTSBURG, CA 94565  
REV. HENRY L. PERKINS, M.DIV., SENIOR PASTOR  
March 21, 2018**

**IDENTIFYING CRISIS AS AN OPPORTUNITY  
TO DEMONSTRATE THE GOSPEL**

The intent of the gospel is to provide the lost with an opportunity to enter the Kingdom of God. The purpose of the gospel is to provide information to the believer to build the Kingdom of God.

**THE ULTIMATE TEST OF MAKING AN IMPACT FOR THE GOSPEL  
(Matthew 16:21-25)**

*Jesus Predicts His Death*

*<sup>21</sup> From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life.<sup>22</sup> Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. “Never, Lord!” he said. “This shall never happen to you!”<sup>23</sup> Jesus turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns.”<sup>24</sup> Then Jesus said to his disciples, “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.<sup>25</sup> For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it.*

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**HOW DO WE DENY OURSELVES ACCORDING TO MATTHEW 16:21-25?**

**APPLICATION**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_

**TODAY'S LESSON**  
**BIBLICAL SOLUTIONS TO WRONG DECISIONS**

Goals: Students will learn the following principles

1. Correcting our wrongs begins and ends with the gospel.
2. Our lives need to wholeheartedly follow Christ.
3. These principles are not about guilt but about identifying better solutions that originate from the gospel.

**Leaving the Problem and performing the promise**

*<sup>11</sup> Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the works themselves. <sup>12</sup> Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. <sup>13</sup> And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. (John 14:11-13)*

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**The problem**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_

**The solution to the problem**

*The Day of the Lord*

<sup>28</sup> *“And afterward, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions. (Joel 2:28)*

**The solution for us to follow**

1. Do not be afraid to **fail**
2. Do not be afraid to **dream**
3. Do not be afraid to **try**
4. Do not be afraid to **change**

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**Problems that impact the church**

1. Hunger
2. Water
3. Education
4. Homelessness
5. Money
6. Health
7. Crime
8. \_\_\_\_\_

**Practical solutions**

1. Do not re-invent the wheel
2. Start with little things
3. Think about the solution rather than our dis-comfort

**Impacting the solution personally!  
In what ways can I change to contribute?**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

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**SCRIPTURE HANDOUT**

**Matthew 22:24-40 New International Version (NIV)**

<sup>24</sup> “Teacher,” they said, “Moses told us that if a man dies without having children, his brother must marry the widow and raise up offspring for him.

<sup>25</sup> Now there were seven brothers among us. The first one married and died, and since he had no children, he left his wife to his brother.

<sup>26</sup> The same thing happened to the second and third brother, right on down to the seventh.

<sup>27</sup> Finally, the woman died.

<sup>28</sup> Now then, at the resurrection, whose wife will she be of the seven, since all of them were married to her?”

<sup>29</sup> Jesus replied, “You are in error because you do not know the Scriptures or the power of God.

<sup>30</sup> At the resurrection people will neither marry nor be given in marriage; they will be like the angels in heaven.

<sup>31</sup> But about the resurrection of the dead—have you not read what God said to you,

<sup>32</sup> ‘I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob’? He is not the God of the dead but of the living.”

<sup>33</sup> When the crowds heard this, they were astonished at his teaching.

**The Greatest Commandment**

<sup>34</sup> Hearing that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, the Pharisees got together.

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<sup>35</sup> One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question:

<sup>36</sup> “Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?”

<sup>37</sup> Jesus replied: “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’

<sup>38</sup> This is the first and greatest commandment.

<sup>39</sup> And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’

<sup>40</sup> All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”

**Matthew 25:31-46 New International Version (NIV)**

**The Sheep and the Goats**

<sup>31</sup> “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his glorious throne.

<sup>32</sup> All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats.

<sup>33</sup> He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.

<sup>34</sup> “Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world.

<sup>35</sup> For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in,

<sup>36</sup> I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.’

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- <sup>37</sup> “Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink?’
- <sup>38</sup> When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you?
- <sup>39</sup> When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?’
- <sup>40</sup> “The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’
- <sup>41</sup> “Then he will say to those on his left, ‘Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels.
- <sup>42</sup> For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink,
- <sup>43</sup> I was a stranger and you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me.’
- <sup>44</sup> “They also will answer, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?’
- <sup>45</sup> “He will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.’
- <sup>46</sup> “Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life.”