

Living with Intensity

John the Baptist, Faithful unto Death

Matthew 14:1-15

“Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends.” **John 15:13**

Make Jesus Christ the Consuming Passion of Your Life.

Live your Christian life with such intensity

that you would be willing to give your life for _____.

*“Anyone who loves his father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; anyone who loves his son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; **Matthew 10:37***

*and anyone who does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. **Matthew 10:38-39***

*“I tell you the truth: Among those born of women there has not risen anyone greater than John the Baptist” **Matthew 11:11a***

*Now Herod had arrested John and bound him and put him in prison because of Herodias, his brother Philip’s wife, for John had been saying to him: “It is not lawful for you to have her.” **Matthew 14:3-4***

*Herod wanted to kill John, but he was afraid of the people, because they considered him a prophet. **Matthew 14:5***

*Finally the opportune time came. On his birthday Herod gave a banquet for his high officials and military commanders and the leading men of Galilee. **Mark 6:21***

*The king was distressed, but because of his oaths and his dinner guests, he ordered that her request be granted **Matthew 14:9***

*Fear of man will prove to be a snare, but whoever trusts in the Lord is kept safe. **Proverbs 29:25***

*Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. **Galatians 6:7***

*But as for me, my feet had almost slipped; I had nearly lost my foothold. For I envied the arrogant when I saw the prosperity of the wicked. **Psalm 73:2-3***

*But many who are first will be last, and many who are last will be first. **Matthew 19:30***

His head was brought in on a platter and given to the girl, who carried it to her mother.
Matthew 14:11

At that time Herod the tetrarch heard the reports about Jesus, and he said to his attendants, “ This is John the Baptist; he has risen from the dead! That is why miraculous powers are at work in him.” **Matthew 14:1-2**

John’s disciples came and took his body and buried it. Then they went and told Jesus.
Matthew 14:12

When Jesus heard what had happened, he withdrew by boat privately to a solitary place.
Matthew 14:13a

**Application: Jesus Christ calls us to live a life of _____
commitment.**

“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’
Matthew 22:37

Authentic Christianity is making Jesus Christ

the _____ passion of your life.

*“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field. **Matthew 13:44***

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls. When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it.
Matthew 13:45-46

*I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! So, because you are lukewarm—neither hot nor cold—I am about to spit you out of my mouth. **Revelation 3:15-16***

*They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony; they did not love their lives so much as to shrink from death. **Revelation 12:11***

Spiritual Warfare T_____

- Two conflicting spiritual beings—Almighty God vs. satan
- Two opposing schools of thought
—Christianity vs. _____(man rather than God)
- Two sets of guidelines—Truth is revealed in the Bible vs. “there is no absolute truth”
- Two Destinies—Eternal life through Jesus,
but hell for those who reject Him vs. n_____.

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes. Ephesians 6:10-11

For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Ephesians 6:12

Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, Ephesians 6:13a

“If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. Luke 9:23

Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship. Romans 12:1

But whatever was to my profit I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. What is more, I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them rubbish, that I may gain Christ Philippians 3:7-8

I tell you the truth: Among those born of women there has not risen anyone greater than John the Baptist; yet he who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. Matthew 11:11

“He is no fool who exchanges that which he cannot keep, for that which he can never lose.” —Jim Elliot

Key: God, intense, primary, Today, Humanism, nothing