Sunday Gathering Liturgy

The Authority to Transform, Luke 5:12-26 - Bradley Bell

April 11, 2021

Luke: Upside Down

Call to Worship - Isaiah 44:6-8

Good morning and welcome to Antioch! We know that many churches begin their gathering with a welcome and announcements, but each week we intentionally begin with the Word of God; and specifically with a passage that calls our attention to who God declares himself to be. Let's hear these ancient words from the prophet Isaiah:

Thus says the Lord, the King of Israel and his Redeemer, the Lord of hosts:
"I am the first and I am the last; besides me there is no god.
Who is like me? Let him proclaim it.
Let him declare and set it before me, since I appointed an ancient people.
Let them declare what is to come, and what will happen. Fear not, nor be afraid; have I not told you from of old and declared it?
And you are my witnesses!
Is there a God besides me?
There is no Rock; I know not any." Isaiah 44:6-8

The most important thing to capture your attention during this time is not things from the past week or things coming in the week ahead, but how the only God is revealing himself to you. There are a million things calling to you all the time—but consider this: God himself is calling to you right now. Let's respond in worship.

Magnificent Marvelous

Confession - John 3:3-5

In the third chapter of John's Gospel Jesus says something that sounded absolutely crazy:

Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God." 4 Nicodemus said to him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" 5 Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. John 3:3-5

What Jesus was getting at was that to enter his kingdom we must be completely transformed, just as if we were born a second time. The problem with this is, because of our sin our lives are headed toward death, not life. Therefore we need someone with the authority to transform us forever. Let's take a moment to confess together our desperate need (read the underlined portions with me):

The Father declares, "With man this is impossible"—

Congregation: Then who can be saved?

The Son responds, "With God all things are possible"—Congregation: Therefore you alone can save us.

The Spirit says, "Amen!"

There Is A Peace

All The Poor And Powerless

Sermon - Luke 5:12-26

Your Great Name

Communion - 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

Announcements & Benediction - 2 Corinthians 5:17

Thank you for joining us in today's gathering! If you tuned in by livestream, we're so glad, but we would invite you if you are physically able to come and worship with us, as there is no substitute for the in-person fellowship of the believers. And as we also intentionally say, this gathering only a small part of the life of Antioch. We would love to have you in one of our Family Groups, where we seek to live out the Christian life together. If you would like to join one of them, there is info in the hallway, or talk with one of us and we'll make a direct connection for you.

Here are a few next-step announcements:

1) Giving - Since we're not able to pass our giving baskets in our gathering at this time, we have placed them on the back table; you may give there as you exit, or you can give on our website or through GivApp.

Visitors - If you are a visitor with us this morning we are glad you're here! Please if you would like to find out more about Antioch or have a pastor contact you, feel free to fill out a visitor card also located in the basket on the back table. You may use the Antioch pens and keep one as our gift to you.

- 2) Food pantry This Saturday at 10am is Food Pantry. This is a great way to meet our neighbors to build intentional gospel relationships! Kari will need helpers to make up boxes on Friday and for distribution at the drive-thru pantry on Saturday. See Kari if you have questions!
- 3) Membership Emphasis the month of April we have emphasis on covenant membership. If you have an interest in becoming a member here at Antioch, we are offering a class on April 18th @9 AM. There is a sign-up sheet on the table near the doors—please let us know if you are attending.
- 4) Popup Today immediately following the gathering will be a "popup" (a small celebration). Here's what you need to know:
- On the table beside the doors: for men, there are patches for each of our five identities. Please grab one of each and use them! For women, on the same table there is a place for you to drop off your identities keychain to get stamped or to sign up to get one. There is also a signup sheet for a women's Bible study in Nehemiah that will be kicking off on Sunday, April 25th.
- Then in the youth room (down the hall) Brandon will be there with more of his artwork on display. Go check it out and hear more from him.
- Then in the training room (across the hall) there will be a special craft activity for kids. By the way, remember to go pick up your kids quickly after the gathering.

We begin each gathering with a Call to Worship and we end with a Benediction, which is simply a reminder that we are blessed to be a blessing. If you would like to receive this benediction, I invite you to open your hands before you.

Church, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. May you go as living proof that Jesus has the authority to completely transform you. (based on 2 Corinthians 5:17)

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Congregation: We are sent.