

## Mount Olive Wednesday Night Bible Study and Prayer Meeting

September 2, 2020

### John 5: 36 - 39

**36 But I have greater witness than that of John: for the works which the Father hath given me to finish, the same works that I do, bear witness of me, that the Father hath sent me. 37 And the Father himself, which hath sent me, hath borne witness of me. Ye have neither heard his voice at any time, nor seen his shape. 38 And ye have not his word abiding in you: for whom he hath sent, him ye believe not. 39 Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.**

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### Verse 36

*“But I have greater witness than that of John: for the works which the Father hath given me to finish, the same works that I do, bear witness of me, that the Father hath sent me.”*

Pastor Tom began with the question - What was Jesus' greatest work?

Answers included - the Cross, Calvary, His Resurrection, miracle of Salvation.

Pastor Tom continued - Jesus' miracles were good but the miracle of salvation was the greatest. That God can take us, stained as we are, because of what Jesus did, and assures us of a place in heaven.

Sherri shared a thought from a devotional that she read. Key ideas:  
“Through this I have Jesus” “Through every circumstance, I have Jesus”

\*And so, in your lifetime, people have been witnesses to you or your family. However, there have also been witnesses who have gone before you that you didn't know.

Sherri read a prayer from an Irish mercenary in Tom's lineage who gave his heart to Jesus.

\*You are who you are because Jesus Christ saved someone to witness to you!

\*What will we do with this information? Sit and do nothing? Are we willing to put our faith on the line to tell others about Jesus Christ? Or do we grumble about our situations?

\*Do you believe that God is in control and greater things can happen in your life?

\*The Bible is alive and is the Living Word of God. Sometime it seems as though Jesus' words are more relevant today than when He spoke them 2 thousand years ago!

\*A lot of people flocked to John the Baptist. That's who we should be - someone people can come to to learn about Jesus.

\*Don't let Jesus and His Word out of the picture.

### **Verses 37 and 38**

*"37 And the Father himself, which hath sent me, hath borne witness of me. Ye have neither heard his voice at any time, nor seen his shape. 38 And ye have not his word abiding in you: for whom he hath sent, him ye believe not."*

\*Why don't people believe in the Good News of Jesus Christ?

Answers shared: worldliness, looking to a person and the focus is on them not on Jesus.

\*Some people are terrible liars but others are good liars and make you believe something that is not true.

Sharing continued:

People would have to stop drinking and playing around if they believed in Jesus. They don't want to give up their lifestyle. They don't want to give up control of their life to Jesus. But many only turn to God in times of trouble. They are infatuated with material things like Madonna in the song, "Material Girl".

Some people have to see to believe like the "Show Me" State or like Thomas the disciple.

To some it means giving up control to Jesus, letting Him be the master.

Jesus admonishes 3 things in these 2 verses:

1. The people don't want to listen.
2. The people don't see God in all things...such as nature
3. You don't have His Word in you.

\*The Bible is alive because it is life. Outside of it is death. It is just words on a page if Jesus is not in your heart. And you can't have the Word in you if you don't have Jesus in you.

### **Verse 39**

*“Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.”*

To search is a command, not an option. We are to search not just read it. We must study it, analyze it, pick it apart. We mustn't let our minds wander, to think too much about other things. We must concentrate on ONE thing and not be distracted or consumed by the things around us...cell phones, TV, etc.

Discussion then veered toward how people have forgotten how to be courteous to others.

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**Sherri: Thank you for backing me up by taking notes. Our grandkids were extremely well behaved and quiet while we listened in on the Bible Study. However, the clarity of people sharing in the church is a little fuzzy on our phone so some things I couldn't pick up well. Please fill in thoughts and ideas that I missed. Particularly in the the underlined portions.**  
**Thanks!!**

**ALSO...Jon wanted me to add this outline from his Bible to help clarify the recent verses we have covered:**

**Verse 30 - 32 Confirmatory Witnesses to Jesus**

**Verses 33 - 35 Witness of John the Baptist**

**Verse 36 Witness of Jesus' works**

**Verse 37 - 38 Witness of the Father**

**Verses 39 - 47 Witness of Scripture**