



**SERMON OUTLINE**  
Sunday April 11th, 2021

**Jesus' Last Words**  
**Our First Priority**  
Pastor Nick Campagna

- **Significant Last Words**

Acts 1:4-9

- What can we discover about Jesus priorities for His followers from His final words to them before His ascension?
  1. He will give them His Spirit
  2. They are to witness about Him
  3. To the ends of the earth

- **Be Witnesses**

Jesus declares that His disciples will 'be His witnesses'.

"Christianity is, simply, good news. It is the news that something has happened as a result of which the world is a different place." N.T Wright

- The reality of Jesus Kingship is good news, not good advice
- Jesus instructs His followers to tell others what they have seen, experienced, and heard of Jesus
- When you walk with Jesus cool stuff happens, stuff that doesn't make sense a lot of times, and that's your story!
- The Good news is that Jesus is King and He has started a new thing. Acts 4:13

- **My Spirit is Upon You**

Jesus does not leave us all alone to do the work He is calling us to do: He gives us everything we need by giving us the Holy Spirit.

- **To the Ends of the Earth: The Gospel is for Everyone**

Revelation 7:9, Mark 1:14-15

- Everyone is invited into the Kingdom by grace through faith in Jesus. Repent and believe in the gospel!

- **How does the gospel change everything?**

Early Church

1. Gathered Regularly
2. Radical Generosity
3. Welcomed Strangers
4. Practiced Forgiveness

Today:

- **SAME**

Imagine if the church was defined by these things in our culture today, would that be attractive to people around us?  
Would that be good news for people?

**Ultimate vision of a new reality -**

**We get the privilege of announcing the arrival of the Kingdom.**

## **SERMON STUDY GUIDE**

### **We meet in Life Groups to *Connect*:**

- Deeper with God and each other through prayer and relationship.
- The Bible to life.
- With our community through serving.

### **SERMON SERIES: *JESUS THE GAME CHANGER: To the Ends of the Earth***

Let's make Jesus' last words our first priority... What compelled ordinary people to face difficulty, danger, and even death, to take the message of Jesus to the ends of the earth? Join us as we discover remarkable stories of vision, faith and sacrifice from around the world, and be challenged to take up the baton in our time. [*Jesus the Game Changer Season 2*. (2019). Grice. Olive Tree Media Ltd.]

### **THIS WEEK: "Jesus' Last Words Our First Priority" (Episode 1)**

Watch the weekend sermon: <http://www.coldspringschurch.net/sermons.html>.

Each week has an episode to watch with your group or prior to meeting.

**Watch this week's Episode: Episode 1: Jesus (26:31min)**

## **GETTING STARTED**

The Christian faith is founded on the real Jesus of history. The following passages introduce us to this person:

Luke 1:1-4; 3:21-23; John 1:1-14; Philippians 2:6-11; Colossians 1:15-20; Hebrews 1:1-3.

## **REFLECTION**

What are your earliest memories of hearing about Jesus and what did you hear?

As you read the above passages, what impresses you about what is recorded concerning Jesus?

## **DISCUSSION**

1. Discuss the relative importance of the following components for an authentic Christian life:
  - a set of moral values
  - the nature, person and work of Jesus
  - a community/church experience
  - a religious experience
2. What would it matter for the Christian faith if it was proved that Jesus' resurrection was not true?
3. The participants in the episode point to at least four key things that made and make Jesus such a transformative figure worldwide:

- His teaching on the value and equality of all people — “each individual was beloved of God.” (Lynn Cohick)
- The death of Jesus on the cross — “this symbol of death ultimately becomes a symbol of new life.” (Ed Stetzer)
- The resurrection of Jesus — “the cornerstone offer faith... Jesus is alive, He is also Lord of the universe.” (Craig Keener)
- Jesus’ continuing impact on people today — “He changed my life and that’s the way I see Jesus as the Game Changer.” (Maryam Rostampour)

Why are these so important? Which is most or least persuasive for you?

4. Read 1 Corinthians 15:12-19. What does this passage have to say about the implications of the resurrection for Christian faith?

5. Read Psalm 67 and John 3:16-21. In the episode, Ermias Mamo makes this observation: “When we see the whole Scripture, we realize God is a missionary God. And the Bible is a missionary book. The things He taught, the task He has given to the Church. Go and preach the Gospel. Make disciples.”

What motivations do you discover from the passages and the episode that encourage you to take up the mission of Jesus?

6. How do you respond to Maryam and Marziyeh’s story of coming to faith in Jesus, being changed by Him, and deciding to share that with their friends and family in spite of the danger?

## **ACTION**

In the coming week, make time to read through or listen to the whole of Mark’s Gospel, in one sitting if possible.

Spend some time this week developing a two sentence, memorable ending to one of the following statements:

“I am a follower of Jesus because...”

Or

“I am interested in knowing more about Jesus because...”

Or

“I am curious about the person of Jesus because...”