

Preaching the Gospel to Yourself - Week 7

The Gospel's Effect on How I Live

Preaching the Gospel to myself challenges me to be a prayer warrior who is actively doing good works with an attitude of boldness and belief in God's Word!

3 ways PTGTM affects how I live:

1. I will become a prayer warrior
2. I will actively do good works
3. I will develop an attitude of boldness and belief in God's Word

PTGTM challenges me to be a prayer warrior!

- How does the Gospel challenge me to pray?
 - Jesus' death reveals the painful lengths God took so we could enter His presence in prayer!
 - Heb. 4:14-16
 - Heb. 10:19-23
 - Jesus' life reflects a habit of faithful prayer
 - Luke 5:16
 - Jesus' teaching commanded his followers to pray
 - Matt. 6:5-9
 - Luke 11:9
 - Luke 18:1-8

Although the conclusion of the argument is in the form of a question that expects a positive answer, it can be reworded as follows: "If the unjust judge yielded to the continuous cries of the widow, who was a stranger, and granted her the vindication she sought (the picture part of the parable), how much more will God, who is just and their loving Father (12:30; 11:2), hear the cries of his chosen ones who cry out to him day and night (the reality part)."¹

- Scripture reveals that prayer is an expected fruit
 - Col. 4:2 – Paul regularly called on the early churches to pray
 - 1 Thess. 5:17 – Prayer is an ongoing act of obedience and dependence upon the Lord
- How should I pray?
 - With confidence, not doubt
 - Heb. 4:16
 - Luke 11:9 – He promises an answer!
 - Through faith in Christ
 - John 15:5, 16
 - Heb. 11:1 – Definition of faith
 - With humility
 - Luke 18:9-14

REFLECTION

Take a moment to share how you've seen God at work through prayer in your life or another person's life.

¹ Stein, R. H. (1992). *Vol. 24: Luke*. The New American Commentary (445). Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers.

PTGTM motivates me to actively be doing good works!

- Why should the Gospel motivate me to do good works?
 - Reflecting on God's saving work on my behalf reveals that I have been saved for good works
 - Christ redeemed me so that I would be zealous for good works
 - Titus 2:11-14, 3:3-8
 - God works day by day to produce in me the desire and power to work for His good pleasure
 - Phil. 2:12-13
 - Paul's prayer reveals this is how I please Christ – Col. 1:9-14
 - The gospel tells me I am saved by grace through faith, not by works, yet I was created to do good works
 - Eph. 2:8-10
 - God does not forget our good works (Heb. 6:10)
 - **Mini-premise:** *The more I embrace the saving work of God on my behalf, the more I embrace the works for which God saved me.*
- How do I practically grow in this area?
 - Identify my gifts and abilities
 - I'm good at _____
 - Ex) Hospitality
 - God has given me _____
 - Ex) A sound mind to instruct others
 - Ask the right questions
 - Where is there a need?
 - What am I passionate about?
 - Am I using my time wisely? (Eph. 5:15-16)
 - Use my gifts to serve others
 - 1 Peter 4:7-11
 - Gal. 5:13-14
 - Rom. 12:1-8

REFLECTION

**Jesus said that it is more blessed to give than to receive (Acts 20:35).
What are some ways that you've been blessed through doing good works for others?**

PTGTM nourishes within me an attitude of boldness and belief in God's Word!

- Read the first paragraph from *A Gospel Primer – My Manifesto* (pg. 50)
- How does the Gospel produce this boldness in me?
 - It banishes my greatest fear – the fear of God's wrath
 - I no longer have to fear daily judgment thanks to Christ's finished work
 - Rom. 8:1; 1 John 4:17-18
 - This means I have no reason to fear anything, especially man
 - Matt. 10:28 – God's averted wrath puts everything into perspective!
 - As I am transformed by the Gospel, I am emboldened to share it with others
 - Like Paul in Rom. 1:16
 - The Gospel reminds me where my boldness comes from... God's grace
 - I identify with the Apostle Paul in 1 Cor. 15:9-10
 - I boast in the Lord (1 Cor. 1:26-31)
 - I boast in my weaknesses (2 Cor. 12:9-10)
 - The Gospel reminds me of God's forgiveness when I fail, and it challenges me to keep pressing on... in His grace