

The Invitation of Jesus

Joshua 5:13–15

Breakout

January 31, 2021

耶稣的邀请

约书亚5:13-15

突破

2021年1月31日

As we bring this 5 week series we've been on to a close, I'm asking God to show us what it means to breakout and go all-in for his mission.

This is a call for you not to just be a spectator with His mission, but to go all-in with it. To not just be a fan of Jesus, but to be a follower of Jesus.

当我们即将结束这5周的系列节目时，我请求上帝向我们展示突破并全力以赴完成他的使命意味着什么。

这是对你的一个号召，不要仅仅做一个旁观者来完成他的使命，而是要全力以赴。不仅要成为耶稣的粉丝，而是要成为耶稣的信徒。

We've been looking at 5 people in the Old Testament who broke out and went all in on the mission of God. Today is our 5th and final message. This has been a challenging series, and I know it's been a lot! Next week I'm going to start a new series through the book of Romans. And we will spend most of this year navigating through it. I can't wait for what God is going to teach us and how we are going to grow this year. But today, let's finish this breakout series strong! Today we'll be in Joshua 5. Moses has died and the mantle of leadership has fallen to Joshua. Joshua is tasked with leading Israel into the Promised Land, and his first major challenge is Jericho, the most fortified city in the world. This scene here in Joshua 5 takes place on the eve of that battle.

Now, as you can imagine, Joshua is pretty nervous. War is imminent. Israel is armed and ready to fight. This is Joshua's first true moment of leadership. So, understandably, he is having a little trouble sleeping and so he goes out and takes a walk; out late at night, all by himself. He's killing time. Probably praying.

[5:13] **When Joshua was by Jericho**, which indicates he was right up by the walls of the city.

我们在旧约里看到了5个人，他们爆发出来，全身心投入到上帝的使命中。

今天是我们的第5条也是最后一条信息。这是一个具有挑战性的系列，我知道它有很多!下周我将开始一个新的系列，罗马书。今年的大部分时间我们都将度过。我迫不及待地想知道上帝要教给我们什么，以及今年我们将如何成长。但是今天，让我们强势结束这一系列的突破!今天我们来看约书亚记第5章。摩西死了，领导权交给了约书亚。约书亚的任务是带领以色列人进入应许之地，他的第一个主要挑战是世界上防御最严密的城市耶利哥。《约书亚书》第5章的这个场景发生在战争的前夕。现在，你可以想象，约书亚非常紧张。战争迫在眉睫。以色列武装起来，准备战斗。这是约书亚第一次真正的领导。所以，可以理解的是，他有点睡不着，所以他出去散步;深夜一个人在外面。他是消磨时间。可能祈祷。[5:13]约书亚靠近耶利哥的时候，这表明他正好在城墙边上。

...he lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, a man was standing before him with his drawn sword in his hand. And Joshua went to him and said to him, "Are you for us, or for our adversaries?"

.....举目观看，不料，有一个人手里有拔出来的刀，对面站立。约书亚到他那里，问他说：“你是帮助我们呢？是帮助我们敌人呢？”

Now, first, let's acknowledge that Joshua is a man's man. He's right by the enemies wall and he encounters a strange man in the dark with his sword drawn. A lesser man, like me, would have been out of there in a hurry... but not Joshua. Joshua goes over challenges the guy to a fight. If you write in your bible, write this next to this verse: **Joshua is the Chuck Norris of Israel.**

And Joshua went to him and said to him, "Are you for us, or for our adversaries?" [14] And he said, "No; but I am the commander of the army of the LORD. Now I have come." And Joshua fell on his face to the earth and worshiped and said to him, "What does my lord say to his servant?" [15] And the commander of the LORD's army said to Joshua, "Take off your sandals from your feet, for the place where you are standing is holy." And Joshua did so.

首先，让我们承认约书亚是男人中的男人。他就在敌人的城墙旁边，在黑暗中遇到了一个拔出剑来的陌生男子。一个不如我的人，会很快离开那里...但不是约书亚。约书亚走过去向他挑战，要和他打一架。如果你在圣经里写，在这节经文旁边写:约书亚是以色列的查克·诺里斯。

问他说：“你是帮助我们呢？是帮助我们敌人呢？”

5:14 他回答说：“不是的，我来是要作耶和華军队的元帅。”约书亚就俯伏在地下拜，说：“我主有什么话吩咐仆人？”

5:15 耶和華军队的元帅对约书亚说：“把你脚上的鞋脱下来，因为你所站的地方是圣的。”约书亚就照着行了。

OK, 1st of all, who is this that Joshua encounters? Well, a few clues: 1: he's called the commander of the Lord; 2: Joshua worships this guy without being rebuked, which you're not allowed to do to an angel; 3: He's referred to as "the Lord" in the next chapter (6:2). This is what theologians call a "theophany," or an Old Testament, pre-nativity appearance of God in human form. This is Jesus.

You're getting a glimpse of Jesus before he shows up in a manger in Bethlehem. How mind blowing is that. Well, as we are thinking about our relationship to Jesus, I want to point out several key things regarding **the invitation of Jesus**. There has always been just one way to follow Jesus, both in the Old or New Testament. 4 things—these are so important. Jesus invites us...

首先，约书亚遇到的是谁？好吧，一些线索：1:他被称为上帝的指挥官；第2集：约书亚没有受到责备就崇拜这个人，这是不允许你对天使做的；他在下一章(6:2)被称为“主”。这就是神学家们所说的“神的显现”，或《旧约》中的神以人类的形式出现在耶稣诞生前。这是耶稣。

在耶稣出现在伯利恒的马槽前，你能看到他。这是多么令人震惊啊。当我们在思考我们与耶稣的关系时，我想指出几个关于耶稣邀请的关键问题。无论在旧约还是新约中，都只有一种跟随耶稣的方式。耶稣邀请我们.....

1. To Surrender

He doesn't come as someone to get onto our side; he comes as one to whom we surrender. A lot of us have realized that God needs to be a part of our lives. We certainly don't want him to be our adversary. We need him in our family; we need him because things in life are overwhelming us; or when we die we don't want to go to hell. So when we come to God we want to know, "How much do I have to do, and what do I have to do, to get you on my side?" Our questions are things like, "How much do I have to

give you? How much do I have to go to church? How well do I have to keep the commandments?”

And I'll just say...This is a completely wrong way of approaching Jesus for two reasons.

1. 降服

他不是来站在我们这边的;他来，乃是我们向他降服的人。我们很多人都意识到上帝需要成为我们生活的一部分。我们当然不想让他成为我们的对手。我们的家庭需要他;我们需要他，因为生活中的事情压倒了我们;或者当我们死后，我们不想下地狱。所以当我们来到神面前，我们想知道，“我需要做多少，我需要做什么，才能让你站在我这边?”我们的问题像是这样的:“我应该给你多少钱?”去教堂要多少钱?我该如何遵守戒律?”

我只想说，这是一种完全错误的方式，原因有二。

1. You can never bargain your way into salvation.

You can never do enough. The gospel is that you could never be good enough to earn God's love. It was something Jesus did for you by living a perfect life, the life you should have lived, and then dying on a cross, the death you should have died, in your place.

2. Jesus is the Commander of the Universe. He's not someone to get on your side; he's someone to whom you surrender. Jared Wilson says it this way, **“The only deal God is willing to make with you is his gift of righteousness for your absolute surrender.”**

1. 你永远不可能通过讨价还价获得救赎。

你做多少都不够。福音就是，你永远都不够好，无法赢得神的爱。这是耶稣为你做的事，通过过一个完美的生活，你本应该过的生活，然后死在十字架上，你本应该死在你的位置上。

2. 耶稣是宇宙的主宰。他不是站在你这一边的人;他是你向他降服的人。贾里德威尔逊这样说:“神唯一愿意与你做的交易，就是祂赐给你称义的礼物，让你完全降服。”

So here is my question: How do you approach God? Not, are you doing enough to get him on your side, but have you surrendered to Him? Over the past year we've seen this a lot as we've navigated a pretty challenging political season. (And I know everybody gets a little nervous as soon as I bring up the “P” word). Well, in case you missed it, everybody wants to enlist God on their side. And there is certainly a place for discussing which positions best represent a biblical approach to the issues... but Jesus has

his own mission, and it's not embodied in any political platform. Jesus' mission was to save sinners and make disciples and build his church. The most important question is not, "Is God on your side, but have you joined up with his mission, his agenda?"

Because of this, when it comes to money, rather than saying, "How much do I have to give to God so I can go on about my life?" You should look at all of your money is his, given to you for his purposes and his mission. And say, "Jesus, what do you want me to do with this money? It is all yours, and I am a soldier in your army."

所以我的问题是:你如何接近上帝?不是说你做得够不够让他站在你这边,而是你向他降服了吗?在过去的一年里,当我们度过了一个充满挑战的政治季节时,我们已经看到了很多这样的情况。(我知道,当我一提到"P"这个词,每个人都会有点紧张)。如果你错过了,每个人都想争取上帝的支持。当然也有一个地方可以讨论哪些立场最能代表圣经对这些问题的处理方法.....但耶稣有他自己的使命,它没有体现在任何政治纲领中。耶稣的使命是拯救罪人,培养门徒和建立祂的教会。最重要的问题不是,“神是否站在你这边,而是你是否与祂的使命、祂的议程结合在一起?”

正因如此,当涉及到钱的时候,与其说“我要给神多少才能继续我的生活?”“你应该看看你所有的钱都是祂的,给你是为了祂的目的和使命。”然后说:“耶稣啊,你要我拿这些钱做什么?”这一切都是你的,我是你军队里的一名士兵。”

That leads me to #2. Jesus invites us... **2. ...To Follow**

Now it may not have been written on Joshua's battle plan...but God is going to be the one doing the fighting in this battle. He doesn't need Joshua to fight the battle for him; Yes, God is going to use Joshua in the battle, but that's fundamentally different. In fact, what he is going to tell Joshua to do, would be strange and illogical. God tells Joshua to walk around the walls of Jericho 7 times and then yell and blow trumpets and God would knock the walls down. Now, let's be honest, God didn't need Joshua to shout to knock the walls down. Right? He could have done that part all by himself. But he chose to use Joshua.

This is an extremely important point. At no point does God tell us to go do fight the battle for him. But... God invites us to follow Him as he fights the battle through us. Doesn't that take all the pressure off? **The Bible never**

starts with what we need to do; it always begins with what God has already done.

这让我想到了第二点。耶稣邀请我们.....**2**跟随

虽然约书亚的作战计划没有写出来，但是神要在这场战役中为祂争战。祂不需要约书亚为祂争战;是的，神会在战斗中使用约书亚，但这是完全不同的。事实上，祂要告诉约书亚的事，是奇怪的，不合逻辑的。神告诉约书亚要绕耶利哥城走七圈，然后大声喊叫，吹号，神就会把城墙推倒。现在，让我们诚实地说，神不需要约书亚大喊来推倒城墙。对吧?祂一个人就能完成那部分。但祂选择了约书亚。

这是非常重要的一点。神从来没有告诉我们去为他争战。但是...神邀请我们跟随他，因为他借着我们战斗。这样不就没压力了吗?圣经从来没有过我们需要做什么开始;它总是从上帝已经做过的事开始。

In Matthew 28:19 we find our marching orders, known as the great commission...Here is our job. **“go into all the world and preach the gospel and make disciples of all nations.”** That sounds like we have a lot to do for Jesus...but do you know what the first thing he told them to do was? Wait! In Acts 1:4 He says to **wait for the promise of the Father**. Which was the promise of the Holy Spirit. You know some of the disciples were type-A and were like, “Wait? We’ve got to get the gospel to every nation. We can’t wait, not even a second! We’ve got to get a conference organized. Peter, together a preaching tour? John, write a book.” But Jesus said to wait. Why? Because he wanted them to understand that they wouldn’t build the church for him; he would build it through them. Did Jesus say, in Matthew 16:18 “You will build my church, and the gates of hell will not prevail against it?” No. He said, **“I will build my church, and the gates of hell will not prevail against it.”**

在马太福音28章19节，我们找到了我们的任务，就是大使命...这就是我们的工作。**你们要去，使万民作我的门徒。**听起来我们有很多事要为耶稣做，但是你知道神对他们说的第一件事是什么吗?等等!在使徒行传1章4节，他说要等待天父的应许。这就是圣灵所应许的。你知道有些门徒是A型，他们会说，“等等?我们要把福音传到每一个国家。我们不能等了，一秒钟也不能!我们得组织一次会议。彼得，一起去布道?约翰，写一本书。耶稣说要等候。为什么?因为他想让他们明白，他们不会为他建造教堂;他将通过他们来建立它。耶稣在马太福音16:18说:“你要建造我的教会，阴间的权柄，不能胜过

他。”“没有。他说：“我要把我的教会建这在磐石上，阴间的权柄不能胜过他。”

This makes such a huge difference in how you approach God and the mission of God. The question is not, “How do we accomplish the mission and save the world?” I’ve told you that question leads to constant guilt, feeling overwhelmed, and discouragement. I know, because I’ve lived in that space for most of my life.

God has given us everything for our identity, He gave us everything for our peace and security, everything for our freedom, everything for our hope, everything for our justification before God, and all the spiritual gifts, resources and tools to do what He’s called us to do.

Our job is just to follow Jesus and obey what He asks of us. I’ve been trying to push you to this over the last several weeks. Are you listening to the Holy Spirit in how he guides you?

Did you know that the Holy Spirit, the third person of God, shows up in 59 places in the book of Acts. In 36 of those He is speaking, guiding them and leading them in mission, speaking through them. So I ask...Is he speaking to you and guiding you in ministry? If not, are you walking with the Holy Spirit? Listen, I understand that there are some unique things happening in the book of Acts, but I am NOT one of those who believe we have a fundamentally different relationship to the Holy Spirit than what we see in those early Christians.

这使得你如何接近上帝和上帝的使命有了巨大的不同。问题不是，“我们如何完成任务，拯救世界？”我已经告诉过你，这个问题会导致持续的内疚、不知所措和沮丧。我知道，因为我这辈子大部分时间都住在那个地方。

上帝为了我们的身份给了我们一切，他给了我们一切为了我们的和平和安全，一切为了我们的自由，一切为了我们的希望，一切为了我们在上帝面前称义，以及所有的精神礼物，资源和工具来做他召唤我们做的事。

我们的工作就是跟随耶稣，顺服他对我们的要求。过去几周我一直想逼你这么。你在聆听圣灵如何引导你吗？

你知道圣灵，也就是神的第三位格，在使徒行传五十九处出现。在其中36个中，他在引导他们，在传教中带领他们，通过他们说话。所以我问.....他是在对你说话，并指导你做事工吗？如果不是，你是否与圣灵同行？听着，我知道使徒行传中发生了一些独特的事情，但我不认为我们与圣灵的关系与早期基督徒有根本的不同。

They were led by Him in the mission; they depended on Him; they were sensitive to Him and they followed Him. Do you follow the Spirit of God? Do you get up every day and say, “Holy Spirit, show me where you want to use me today and who you want to use me with. Put words in my mouth to encourage others; to warn others; to tell them about Jesus.”

For this series, I’ve asked you specifically, “Are you following Him in giving?” Listen: Just about every impulse I have in my heart to give, I try to obey. You say, “What if it’s not the Holy Spirit, but the devil?” I’m not sure what is on the official list of things Satan prompts you to do, but I’m pretty sure sacrificial giving is not on that list. So I assume it’s God and I give it. Have you listened to the Holy Spirit for what you should give?

他们在传教中是由他带领的;他们依赖他;他们对他很敏感，跟着他。你跟随神的灵吗?

你每天起床说:“圣灵啊，请告诉我你今天要在哪里使用我，要在谁身上使用我。”把鼓励别人的话放在我嘴里;警告别人;告诉他们关于耶稣的事。”

在这个系列中，我特别问过你:“你跟随他的付出吗?”“听着:我心里几乎每一次想要给予的冲动，我都尽力去遵从。你说:“万一不是圣灵，而是魔鬼呢?”“我不确定撒旦唆使你做的事情的官方清单上是什么，但我很确定献祭的奉献不在清单上。所以我猜是上帝，我给了他。你有没有听过圣灵的话，知道你应该给予什么?

Any time I talk about listening to the Holy Spirit, I believe it’s important to say a few important cautions. First, **the Spirit of God never leads contrary to the Word of God**. He’s not going to ever lead you to leave your husband, or have an affair, or you teenagers can never come home and say, “God has led me to have sex with my girlfriend or told me it was ok to use drugs.”

Second, we are called to **follow Jesus, obey, and He will be our guide**.

The Apostles weren’t waiting on the Spirit to tell them to preach the gospel or get involved in the mission. Jesus has already told us to do that. The Holy Spirit is guiding them as they do it. It’s kind of like riding a bike. You start pedaling and then you steer. You start obeying, and the Holy Spirit will guide you as do it. I point this out because people can have the tendency to sit around and wait on God to tell them do something he’s already told us to do. I can assure you that if you are not actively in ministry, using your spiritual gifts, telling other people about Jesus, making

disciples, pouring yourself out in the church and in the community, and giving sacrificially, you are not walking with the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit only steers moving ships.

The point is that Jesus calls us to follow. He doesn't need us to do anything for him, but he calls for us to let Him do the impossible through us. Or I love what Tozer said, "God is looking for people through whom he can do the impossible. What a pity we plan only the things we can do by ourselves."

每当我谈到聆听圣灵，我相信说一些重要的注意事项是很重要的。第一，神的灵永不使人违背神的道。他不会让你离开你的丈夫，或者有外遇，或者你们这些青少年永远不会回到家说，“上帝让我和我的女朋友发生性关系，或者告诉我可以吸毒。”

二.我们被呼召跟随耶稣，顺服，他就会成为我们的指引者。使徒们没有等待圣灵告诉他们去传福音或参与传教。耶稣已经告诉我们这样做了。当他们这样做时，圣灵正在引导他们。这有点像骑自行车。你开始踩踏板，然后转向。你开始顺服，圣灵会引导你这样做。我指出这一点，是因为人们有一种倾向，坐在那里等待上帝告诉他们去做他已经告诉我们要做的事情。我可以向你保证，如果你不积极地服事，不使用你的属灵恩赐，不向别人传讲耶稣，不作门徒，不在教会和团体中倾注自己，不作牺牲，你就不是与圣灵同行。圣灵只指挥移动的船只。

关键是耶稣呼召我们跟随。他不需要我们为他做任何事，但他要求我们让他通过我们去做不可能的事。或我喜欢托泽说的话：“上帝正在寻找那些能通过他做不可能的事的人。真遗憾，我们只计划我们自己能做的事情。”

So, Jesus invites us #1 to SURRENDER; #2 to FOLLOW; 3. ...**To Worship.**

When Joshua sees Jesus he immediately hits the deck; he verbalizes his surrender; and then he takes off his shoes—an Old Testament sign of deep respect for something holy. That's God's first and primary agenda for us: worship. Why? He doesn't need us. Remember what happens in this story. God knocks down the walls. He is after our hearts! You worship whatever you put ultimate value on. Whatever you feel like you have to have for life and security. For many of you, that thing is money. So you fall on your face and cling to it and surrender to do what it says and show the utmost respect for it. Jesus wants you to replace money with Him. Where you see

Him as ultimate. Remember Matthew 6:21 **For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.**

所以，耶稣邀请我们1降服; 2跟随;3.敬拜。

当约书亚看到耶稣时，他立即上了甲板;他用言语表达他的降服;然后他脱下鞋子——这是《旧约》中对神圣事物表示深深的敬意的标志。这就是神对我们的首要任务:敬拜。为什么?他不需要我们。记住这个故事里发生了什么。上帝推倒了城墙。他追求我们的心!你崇拜任何你认为有终极价值的东西。无论你觉得你的生活需要什么和安全。对你们很多人来说，那就是钱。所以你俯伏在地，紧贴着它，服从它的命令，并对它表现出最大的尊重。耶稣想要你用祂来代替钱。那么你认为祂是终极的。记住马太福音6:21，**因为你的财宝在哪里，你的心也在那里。**

Jesus wants to be our primary source of significance and security. Where we look at money and we say, “God, I don’t need all this for beauty and significance in my life because you are my beauty and significance. I don’t need to spend all my money filling my life with pleasures because YOU are my pleasure. I don’t need to save it all for my security because you are my security.”

So he commands us to give to get the idols out of our hearts. Generosity is not about our money (he doesn’t need that); it’s about where we have given our hearts (we need that). Generosity is not something he wants from us but something he wants for us. So to that end I’ve given you a few questions to consider about your giving:

What does what you do with your money show that you most love?

What does what you do with your money show that you most trust in

What does what you do with your money reveal about what kingdom you are serving?

What statement does your giving to God make about his value to you?

耶稣想成为我们重要和安全的主要来源。我们看着钱说:“上帝，我的生命中不需要这些来换取美丽和意义，因为你就是我的美丽和意义。”我不需要花我所有的钱让我的生活充满快乐，因为你就是我的快乐。我不需要为了自己的安全而保存所有，因为你就是我的安全。”

所以他吩咐我们将偶像从心中除掉。慷慨与我们的钱无关(他并不需要钱);这是关于我们在哪里献出了我们的心(我们需要)。慷慨不是他想从我们这里得到的，而是他想为我们得到的。为此，我给了你们几个问题，供你们考虑:

你怎么处理你的钱显示你最喜欢什么？

你如何处理你的钱最值得信赖

你用你的钱做什么能揭示你所服务的王国？

你对神的奉献说明了他对你的价值是什么？

These are questions not about what God needs...they are about the idols of your heart. The inward look to know if money (or anything else) has replaced God as your primary source of security and delight. Jesus is such a better God than money. God never loses value; he never enters a recession; and he's not dependent on who sits in the Oval Office. Listen: **our giving problems are always worship problems.**

I guarantee you: If you don't give generously, it's because money is more of a source of pleasure or security to you than Jesus. Worshipping Jesus is the way to joyful, cheerful giving. You're my treasure; you're my trust. I can obey you in giving, whatever you say, because I don't need money for either of these things. Or, you could say it like this: "In Christ, I can give up all that I have, because in Christ, I have all that I need." Listen to Philippians 3:7-8 from the message version.

这些问题不是神需要什么，而是你心中的偶像。从内心去了解金钱(或其他东西)是否已经取代上帝，成为你安全感和快乐的主要来源。耶稣是比金钱更好的神。上帝从不失去价值;他从未经历过经济衰退;他并不依赖于谁坐在椭圆形办公室。听着:我们给予的问题总是敬拜的问题。

我向你保证:如果你不慷慨地给予，那是因为金钱对你来说比耶稣更能带来快乐和安全。敬拜耶稣是通往喜乐的道路。你是我的财宝;你是我的信任。无论你说什么，我都可以服从你的给予，因为这两件事我都不需要钱。或者，你可以这样说:“在基督里，我可以放弃我所有的，因为在基督里，我有我所需要的。”请听腓立比书3:7-8。

Yes, all the things I once thought were so important are gone from my life. Compared to the high privilege of knowing Christ Jesus as my Master, firsthand, everything I once thought I had going for me is insignificant—dog dung. I've dumped it all in the trash so that I could embrace Christ

and be embraced by him. I didn't want some petty, inferior brand of righteousness that comes from keeping a list of rules when I could get the robust kind that comes from trusting Christ—God's righteousness.

只是我先前以为与我有益的，我现在因基督都当作有损的。

8 不但如此，我也将万事当作有损的，因我以认识我主基督耶稣为至宝。我为他已经丢弃万事，看作粪土，为要得着基督，

Maybe the reason your heart has been moved in this series to joyful generosity is that you've never really been saved by Jesus. You've been religious, but Jesus has never changed your heart so that you see Him as your God and your King and your soul's delight, and what you need most is not to beat yourself up about giving, but to be saved and have your heart changed by Jesus.

也许在这个系列中，你的心感动到喜悦的慷慨，是因为你从来没有真正被耶稣拯救过。你是虔诚的，但是耶稣从来没有改变你的心，使你把他看作你的神，你的王，你灵魂的喜悦，你最需要的不是因为付出而痛打自己，而是被耶稣拯救，你的心被耶稣改变。

Lastly today, Jesus invites us... **4. ...To Victory**

When Joshua encounters Jesus, he has his sword raised. The raised sword of Jesus means he is ready to fight. Friends, Jesus has never raised his sword and lost a battle. In Matthew 28:18 when Jesus says, "**All authority is given to me in heaven and in earth, therefore go...**"

Essentially He is raising his sword again. Victory is assured. The Great Commission begins with the Great Announcement of victory. Great sacrifices for the Great Commission come from great confidence that Jesus will do what he said he would. That his mighty sword is raised. Do you believe this? Does how you spend your money show that you believe it? Do you realize how short this life is... that you and I have one shot to make an impact on eternity?

When the Confederacy tried to secede from the Union, they started to print their own money. And, for a while in the South, you could use either Confederate or American money. Well, after the war was over there was a short period in which people were still using this Confederate money, but everybody could see where it was going. What would the smart person do with their Confederate money if they had any? Spend it! Trade it in for Union money. Why? Because you can see in just a short time it's not going

to have any value! The foolish person is the one who saved that money and tried to hang onto it. If you see that this world is passing away, and that your life here is relatively short, why would you not invest as much of it as you can in eternity?

Do you really believe what the gospel says about eternity? Does what you do with your money show that you believe it? 最后，耶稣邀请我们...

4成胜

当约书亚遇到耶稣时，他举起了他的剑。耶稣举起的剑意味着他准备好战斗了。朋友们，耶稣从未举起他的剑而输掉一场战斗。在马太福音28:18中，耶稣说：“**天上地下所有的权柄都赐给我了，所以，你们要去...**”

实际上，他又举起了他的剑。胜利是保证。伟大的使命以伟大的胜利宣告开始。为大使命所作的巨大牺牲来自于对耶稣能成就他所应许的信心。他的利剑已经举起。

你相信吗？你花钱的方式表明你相信它吗？你知不知道这一生是多么短暂.....
你和我只有一次机会改变世界？

当南部邦联试图脱离联邦时，他们开始印制自己的钞票。在南方，有一段时间，你可以使用南方联盟或美国的货币。战争结束后有一段时间人们还在使用南部联盟的钱，但每个人都能看到它的去向。如果有南部联盟的钱，聪明的人会怎么用呢？花吧！把它换成联邦的钱。为什么？因为你可以看到在很短的时间内它将没有任何价值！愚蠢的人是把钱存起来并试图保住它的人。如果你看到这个世界正在逝去，而你在这里的生命相对短暂，为什么你不尽可能多地投入到永恒中呢？

你真的相信福音书里说的永恒吗？你花钱的方式表明你相信它吗？

Awakening Church: Jesus' sword is drawn. We win! It's going to be worth it! Will you breakout and go "All-In"? We have to live our lives from the perspective of eternity. This past week, one of my best childhood friends dad passed away from a 2-year battle with liver cancer. Through the grieving, I've been forced into thinking about how short this life is...and what I'm truly living for. I'm reminded of the words from the missionary C.T. Studd, he said, **"If Jesus Christ be God and died for me, then no sacrifice is too great for me to give for Him."**

At the end of John Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress, he has a scene where the pilgrims enter heaven. Bunyan depicts death as a deep, cold, rapidly-flowing river. Bunyan said,

This river has been a terror to many; the thought of it have often frightened me. But now, standing here, it seems easy—the waters are indeed to the palate bitter, and to the stomach cold, yet the thoughts of what I am going to and the life that waits for me on the other side doth lie as a glowing coal in my heart... My toilsome days are ended. I am going now to see that head that was crowned with thorns, and that face that was spit upon for me.

I have formerly lived only by faith; but now I go where I shall live by sight, and shall be with him in whose company I delight myself. I have loved to hear my Lord spoken of on earth; and wherever I have seen the print of his shoe in the earth, there I have yearned to set my foot also... His voice to me has been most sweet; and his countenance I have desired more than the sun. His word I did gather for my food and as medicine for my weaknesses.

And Bunyan writes, as the pilgrim said these things, "His countenance changed," he looked upward, and he said, "Take me, for I come unto thee," and he slipped into heaven.

觉醒教会:耶稣的剑已拔出。我们赢了!这是值得的!你会突破并全力以赴吗?我们必须从永恒的角度来生活。上周,我儿时最好的朋友之一的父亲在与肝癌斗争了两年之后去世了。在悲痛中,我被迫思考人生是多么短暂.....以及我活着的真正目的是什么。我想起了传教士C.T.斯图德的话,他说,“如果耶稣基督是神,并为我而死,那么我为祂所作的牺牲就没有什么是大得不能为的。”

在约翰·班扬的《天路历程》的结尾,他有一个朝圣者进入天堂的场景。班扬把死亡描绘成一条很深、冰冷、湍急的河流。班扬说,

这条河使许多人感到恐惧;一想到它,我就常常害怕。可是现在,站在这里,似乎很容易——水尝起来是苦的,胃是凉的,然而一想到我将要去的地方和在另一边等着我的生活,却像一堆烧红的煤在我心里.....我辛苦的日子结束了。我现在要去看看那顶荆棘的头,那为我吐唾沫的脸。

我从前单凭信心活着。但现在我要去能看见的地方，与我喜爱的人在一起。我喜欢听人在地上谈论我的主;无论我在哪里看到他的鞋印，我都渴望把我的脚也踏在那里.....他对我说话的声音非常甜美;我仰慕他的面容，胜过仰慕日头。我确实收集了他的话语作为我的食物和治疗我的弱点的良药。

班扬写道，朝圣者说这些话的时候，“他的脸色变了，”他抬头仰望，说，“带我走吧，因为我来见你。”然后他就溜进了天堂。

Follow me, Jesus said. I promise you, it's worth it. Think about your life from the perspective of eternity. And today as we close, I ask the most important question of all...what have you done with Jesus? When you think about eternity (and now for that matter) this is the question. The Bad News is that according to Romans 3:10 there is none righteous... meaning that no one is in right standing with God. Because of sin, We all fall short and the punishment is eternal spiritual death. However, the good news...the gospel... is the truth that in His love for us, God the Father sent God the Son to earth to become a man. Jesus was born without a sin nature, and lived a sinless life. He allowed himself to be crucified, and as he hung on the cross, God the Father took all of our sins, put them on Jesus and punished him in our place.

耶稣说:“跟从我吧!”我向你保证，这是值得的。从永恒的角度来思考你的生活。今天临近结束时，我要问一个最重要的问题:你对耶稣做了什么?当你想到永恒(现在就这个问题而言)，这就是问题所在。

坏消息是，根据罗马书3:10，世上没有义人...意思是没有人神面前是正直的。因为罪，我们都失败了，惩罚就是属灵永远的死亡。然而，好消息...福音...就是父神因爱我们，差子神到世上来成为人这一真理。耶稣生下来没有罪的本性，过着无罪的生活。他让自己被钉在十字架上，当他被挂在十字架上的时候，父神承担了我们所有的罪，把罪加在耶稣身上，代替我们惩罚祂。

1 Peter 2:24 says **He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.**

Jesus took the punishment we deserved, and he died. His body was placed in a tomb, and on the third day he came back from the dead, never to die again. God in his love and grace has overcome our two greatest enemies: sin and death. And those who acknowledge to Jesus that they are sinners, and trust Him to forgive and save them...they will be forgiven

and given the gift of abundant and eternal life with God. Would you pray today and surrender you life to Jesus today?

And, today, if you've already made a decision to follow Jesus, I ask, have you surrendered everything to Him as Lord? I pray that you would. That's the invitation of Jesus.

彼得前书2:24他被挂在木头上，亲身担当了我们的罪，使我们既然在罪上死，就得以在义上活。因他受的鞭伤，你们便得了医治。

耶稣得到了我们应得的惩罚，他死了。他的身体被安置在坟墓里，第三天他从死里复活，永不再死。神以他的爱和恩典战胜了我们两个最大的敌人:罪和死亡。那些向耶稣承认自己是罪人，并相信祂会宽恕和拯救他们的人，他们将会被宽恕，并得到丰盛和永恒的生命且神同在。今天你愿意祷告，把你的生命交给耶稣吗？

今天，如果你已经决定跟随耶稣，我要问，你是否把一切都交给了主？我祈祷你会的。这是耶稣的邀请。