

13 JUN'10 SUNDAY SERVICE @ 8.30AM SERMON MESSAGE BY PS. SHYJU
MATTHEW

TITLE: I AM THE VOICE.

TEXT: John 1: 19 - 22

John 1:20 - 22 ... I am not the Christ.'
Matt. 11: 11

"I tell you the truth: Among those born of women there has not risen anyone greater than John the Baptist; yet he who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."

John the Baptist was special because he lived at the time of Jesus; the bridge between the O.T. and the N.T. For 400 years, the voice of God was silent until John the Baptist became that voice for God. In the Old Testament, there was a physical sanctuary, in the New Testament; we are the sanctuary of God.

Why are we greater than John the Baptist?

We are more special because we are blood washed believers, with Jesus living in our hearts and are therefore greater than all the old prophets. By position we are greater than John Baptist but by fruit bearing we have much to learn from John Baptist.

WHAT MADE JOHN THE BAPTIST SO SPECIAL?

John 1: 20-23

John the Baptist was confessing what he was not! That was a place of humility. When you know what you are not, you come to an understanding of who you are. We go into dangerous zone when we start to define ourselves; satisfied with our achievements/desires. We need to feel tiny when we come to God, acknowledge that we need His help, allow Him to grow us and be used by Him. God can use us whether we are with/without position/title.

John 1: 23 ...'I am the voice of one calling in the desert, make straight the way for the Lord.'

John the Baptist was so one with the call of God that he defined himself as THE VOICE.

John considered himself ' the voice of God ' (John 1: 23). He remembered the calling of God on his life and was lost in what God called him to do. When we are like John, lost in our calling, we will not be concerned with whether we are being liked/disliked; appreciated/not appreciated.

John the Baptist was so consecrated that when he opened his mouth, God's voice came out of his mouth. Beware of soaking in the newspaper, because newspaper will come out of your mouth!

The Word of God called you. If you take it seriously, God will take you seriously. We need to live the Word and be lost in our calling so that we don't have time to be bothered by people's criticism or praises.

WHAT YOU SOAK IN IS WHAT YOU WILL BRING FORTH.

God has called you to bring a change to where you are at.

You need to be ONE with the call of God, and then your ears will hear God's voice.

1) Deny yourself to manifest God's call.

2) You become the voice of God in you.

John 1: 29, 35 - 36 John saw Jesus coming he said, 'Look the lamb of God,....'

Jesus was walking among the crowds and yet no one recognize Him, except John the Baptist although he has never met Jesus before. Due to his consecration and close relationship with God, he knew the Lord. Even in the midst of distraction, he recognized Jesus.

How did John the Baptist know? God gave him a revelation of who Jesus is.

God can manifest himself in so many ways but we miss it because we are not consecrated enough to 'see' nor 'hear' God. When you can respond to the small promptings of God, then you will hear Him.

Spend consecrated time with God; hours spent together with God will bring us into the secret of the kingdom.

Mark 4: 10 – 11

Mark 9: 28

In public (Mark 9: 19) Jesus rebuked the unbelieving generation. But in private (Mark 9: 28) he revealed to them more.

Your personal time with God will bring revelation which can release deliverance and miracles. This is why John the Baptist could recognize Jesus.

Sunday is just the result of what you have been soaking in from Monday to Saturday. Only then will you be a believer to grow on your own.

John denied self to the extent that it was all for Jesus. When I sow into God, he takes care of my life.

John 1: 35 – 36 John saw Jesus and said 'Look, the lamb of God.'

John 1: 37 2 disciples followed Jesus.

When someone is in your house, we give him the attention and drop everything else to acknowledge His presence. This is the same with the presence of God.

John was not just the voice of God John the Baptist was pointing people to Jesus. This is the same for us when we point people to Jesus; we become the finger of God.

My life will point people to Jesus – that is the fullness of what we are called to – our life points to Jesus. We don't need a title if we have soaked in the presence of God

John 1: 38 The disciples asked where Jesus is staying.

If I know where Jesus stays, then I can receive the presence of God. Change your mindset – instead of telling God where you are going, ask God where is he and you go there.

Vision for this church:

- 1) A large cloud moving very fast – God is moving in greater speed than before.
- 2) Those who are comfortable with the status quo must prepare for the change. Be careful not to be a hindrance to this move of God. Stay under the cloud, don't miss it.
- 3) Even before a brick is moved, the church needs to enter into a 21 day fasting and praying against the enemy's attack to divide the church.

Those who fast & pray will be the next leaders.

2Chronicle 7: 14

- 1) There needs to be the next level of humility.
- 2) Turn from a spirit of arrogance and ego.

Woe unto those who cause disunity, blessed are the peacemakers.

FOR CELL GROUP APPLICATION:

- 1) 'In the Old Testament, there was a physical sanctuary, in the New Testament; we are the sanctuary of God.'

If I am the sanctuary of God, and God is staying in my house, what noticeable change in me takes place as a result of this awareness of God's presence?

- 2) 'God can manifest himself in so many ways but we miss it because we are not consecrated enough to 'see' nor 'hear' God. When you can respond to the small promptings of God, then you will hear Him.'

Share our modern day version of consecration to God.

3) 'WHAT YOU SOAK IN IS WHAT YOU WILL BRING FORTH.'

- a) Share how you practice soaking in God's presence from Monday – Saturday in order to receive God's revelation?

 - b) What are some common pitfalls to avoid?

 - c) How do you continue if the soaking does not seem to produce results of receiving God's revelation?
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