

RADICAL



Bigger Than Me

Matthew 28:18-20

Big Idea for the Series: There's a subtle, creepy, sly enemy of *authentic* Christian living that sneaks into our life and wreaks havoc. If you've ever wondered if there's more to Christianity than you're experiencing, you're right. In *Radical*, we'll talk about what may be lacking and how to get it in your life.

The Bottom Line for this message: Your highest aim and goal is to use your life and everything in it to glorify God by leading people to salvation in Him.

Review:

In the first week of *Radical* we asked a question: Is Jesus *really* worth abandoning everything for?

In the second week, we learned the **primary reward of the Gospel is God Himself.**

Last week, **instead of asserting ourselves, we must crucify ourselves! God-reliance vs. self-reliance.**

Introduction:

Today, we want to take that thought a step further and join with David Platt in discussing "The American Dream." Isn't that what we all want? Isn't this what we strive so hard to accomplish?

Is retirement the primary end goal?

Aren't we created for something much greater than retirement, travel, golf lessons, and a mountain home?

Struggle:

There's a call [desire] in most of us to live a life of purpose and meaning. This intense passion within desperately wants to accomplish something important and lasting, but the struggle is we don't often know where to find it.

God has created us to accomplish a radical, global, supremely God-exalting purpose with our lives far beyond anything we've probably ever imagined.

Let's start with the why and move to the what.

Truth:

Most of us think God blesses us because He loves us, and although He loves us very much, His reason for blessing us is much bigger than us.

So, why does God bless us? Because we're so special? No.

Psalm 23:3, "He restores my soul. He guides me in the paths of righteousness **for his name's sake.**"

Psalm 25:11, "**For the sake of your name**, O LORD, forgive my iniquity, though it is great."

Psalm 31:3, "For You are my rock and my fortress; **for the sake of your name** lead and guide me."

Ezekiel 20:44, "'You will know that I am the LORD, when I deal with you **for my name's sake** and not according to the evil ways and your corrupt practices, O house of Israel,' declares the Sovereign Lord."

Ezekiel 39:25, "'Therefore this is what the Sovereign LORD says: I will now bring Jacob back from captivity and will have compassion on all the people of Israel, and I will be zealous **for my holy name.**'"

At first glance, and primarily because of our limited mind, we are tempted to think the reason is quite self-serving, selfish.

Whom else would we have God exalt? At the very moment God exalted someone or something else, he would no longer be God.

God loves us deeply, yet the highest reason for His love, His ultimate Sacrifice of His Son was for His own glory.

Revelation 7:9-10, "After this I looked and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. And they cried out in a loud voice: '**Salvation** belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb.'"

The Why: In the beginning of history, God's purpose was to bless His people so all peoples on earth would glorify Him for His salvation.

1 Corinthians 10:31, "So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, **do it all for the glory of God.**"

Which leads us to the what. What are we supposed to be about? What is the highest purpose of our life?

The divine mandate God gives to every person on earth who believes in his name is the salvation of men's souls.

Matthew 28:18-20, "Then Jesus came to them and said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore, **go and make disciples** of all nations, **baptizing** them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and **teaching** them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age.'"

There is nothing more important you can do with your life.

Charles Spurgeon said, "Have you no wish for others to be saved? Then you're not saved yourself, be sure of that!"

Application:

All of us are missionaries. If you've taken the online evangelism training, use it. Go out and lead someone to Jesus.

If you haven't taken the online evangelism training, sign up today on the back of your communication card.

Either way, your highest aim and goal is to use your life and everything in it to glorify God by leading people to salvation in Him. There is no higher calling.

God blesses you, so you can use that blessing to lead others to Him.

Next Steps:

- Memorize Matthew 28:18-20
- Sign me up for the online evangelism class.
- I will tell someone about Jesus this week.