

CRINGE

Part 3: An Awkward Family Moment

Pastor Grant Fishbook

October 23 & 24, 2010

Simon Peter Gets It Right

"But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?"

Simon Peter answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by man, but by my Father in heaven." – *Matthew 16:15-17*

Jesus Speaks The Truth

From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, chief priests and teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life. – *Matthew 16:21*

Simon Peter Gets It Wrong

Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. "Never, Lord!" he said. "This shall never happen to you!" – *Matthew 16:22*

The Cringe Moment

Jesus turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the things of God, but the things of men." – *Matthew 16:23*

What are the things of man?

- 1) Safety
- 2) Security
- 3) Selfishness
- 4) Status

Jesus Speaks The Truth Again

Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will find it. What good will it be for a man if he gains the whole world, yet forfeits his soul? Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul? For the Son of Man is going to come in his Father's glory with his angels, and then he will reward each person according to what he has done." – *Matthew 16:24-27*

What are the things of God?

- 1) A life spent loving
- 2) A life spent choosing
- 3) A life spent following
- 4) A life being saved

He is no fool, who gives what he cannot keep
to gain what he cannot lose.

– *Jim Elliot*

(Continues on back)

Next Steps

Our theme this week is pursuing is things of God, not things of man. Here are a few ways you can start to pursue the things of God:

- In the DEEP Discipleship brochure (available in The Commons), take a look at the Spiritual Disciplines row. Take some time to make an honest inventory of how much of your life you are investing in these disciplines. Is there one area where sense God is asking you to invest in the things he considers valuable? If you get that sense, act on it. Don't bite off more than you can chew; start by being consistent in just one area, and build from there.
- If you're just exploring the things of God for the first time in your life, don't wait another week to join Alpha, a practical introduction to Christianity. Alpha started last Monday evening, but it's not too late to join. See details on the back of today's program or online at ctkbellingham.com.

Small Group Questions



- 1) Have you ever had an awkward family moment at a large gathering? What happened?
- 2) Peter played the role of spokesman in his spiritual family. What role do you play in your family? (mediator, peacemaker, cheerleader, truth-teller, spokesperson, etc.)
- 3) Which of the "things of man" is most likely to keep you from growing spiritually? What can you do to prevent it from becoming a spiritual barrier?
- 4) What do you think it means to deny yourself, take up your cross and follow? How could this play out practically in your daily life?
- 5) Thinking over the past week, are there times when you consciously chose to follow Christ? In what way? Can you give us some specific examples?
- 6) How can we pray for you tonight?