

Saturday, Feb. 18th Men's Breakfast Notes.

Preparation of the Gospel of Peace -Ps. Al

EMIC Men's Ministry Model: Intentional - relational - discipleship into the Word of God

Mission: *Take a group of men, disciple them intensely in the Word of God, teach them an uncommon faith and help to stand victorious in life.*

How?: Our Core Values...

How many believe we are living in the end times?

- Our pastors teach it deliberately why - preparation
- A good shepherd preps his flock
- We have good shepherds

Signs of the end times...

Last week Monday , Feb 6 there was a terrible earthquake that has taken the life of over 55k people in Turkey and Syria

- The truth is there was over 130 earthquakes over a mag of 4.0 that Monday more than any day by far for the week and one of the most active days in all history
- The night before (just hours before), Sunday Feb 5th, CBS declared by a tweet a night of worship during the

Grammys where they proceeded to worship the devil in a service dedicated to satan.

- The earth shook with this evil
 - We have to be able to connect the dots
- Like the sons of Issachar, we must know the time that we are in.

“But when you hear of wars and commotions, do not be terrified; for these things must come to pass first, but the end will not come immediately.” Then He said to them, “Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be great earthquakes in various places, and famines and pestilences; and there will be fearful sights and great signs from heaven.”

Luke 21:9-11 NKJV

- Jesus warns us in advance - do not be terrified (moved or shaken)
- Faith in God and His Word is tried and is the answer

Jesus tells us these things in advance why: Peace through Preparation

“Indeed the hour is coming, yes, has now come, that you will be scattered, each to his own, and will leave Me alone. And yet I am not alone, because the Father is with Me. These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you

may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.””

John 16:32-33 NKJV

- Jesus says I tell you these things in advance so that in Me you will have peace
- We are not caught unaware of the devil’s devices
- Foreknowledge is a weapon given to us by God!

The Armor of God

“and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace;”

Ephesians 6:15 NKJV

- The first known use of cleats (PIC) was invented for the Roman army - they were hob-nailed soles which added traction



- The purpose was so that they can be firm-footed and stand their ground and advance forward against resistance and unstable ground
- Jesus says I tell you the things that are to come in advance so that in Me you will have peace - that is the Gospel - the good news that He has overcome the world and because He has overcome the world – we have overcome the world!

- So that we can stand firm-footed and don't lose ground when wickedness is abounding
- For Jesus has secured the victory!

When you add your faith to that - to His Word:

- Above all taking on the shield of faith:
- There isn't any news of anything going on in this world that can shake us!!

It gets better!:

Grace abounds even more:

“Moreover the law entered that the offense might abound. But where sin abounded, grace abounded much more, so that as sin reigned in death, even so grace might reign through righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”

Romans 5:20-21 NKJV

- Men, in Jesus, whenever we see sin abounding there is an even greater, exponential, outpouring of the dispensation of grace being poured out
- There is more grace abounding and available to us now than ever before in Christian history

(Ladders of Grace vision)

“by grace through faith” - ladders of grace

- On the ladders of Grace, each step(rung) is a step of faith that we must take to approach the throne room of grace that we may obtain more grace for everything we need for life and godliness

Preparation

- By grace through faith
- We were made and released into this world by God specifically for such a time as this

And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work.”

II Corinthians 9:8 NKJV

- Men, we need to stay under the spout(dispensation) of grace by staying in-Christ by faith
- We need to stay in the river of grace
- Our steps of faith will lead us to the throne of grace