
Only Jesus

Part 9 – World Changer

Some moments change the world...

And some people are intimately tied to those events...

We each have these moments in our lives. Who are those people for you? Who comes to mind? Which names and faces spring to mind as you think about these world-changing moments in your life?

For the most part, these significant world-changing events are simply some people having some experience or incident happen in their lives.

The First Easter Sunday

The shouting and fuss of the events of the Passover in the city gave way to a handful of guards, mockers and mourners outside the city, and eventually came down to two disciples and an empty tomb, and then to two Marys and the resurrected Jesus on that first resurrection Sunday.

John 20:11-16

Revelation Beyond Belief!

What is so amazing about this scene, this moment, this world-changing event, is that it happens in a garden in a regional town at the far edge of the Roman empire, and yet, within a decade or two, we see people in Ancient Greece – half-way around the Mediterranean, commenting that these followers of Jesus “have turned the world upside down!” (Acts 17:6 – in Thessalonica)

Why?

What Jesus Did

Jesus comes claiming He is both the son of the one true God, and that He is this God.

John 17:20-26

Matthew 10:8

What Jesus Did Next

Jesus initiated resurrection life

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” – Acts 1:8 (ESV)

Because He’s a World-Changer, we are World-changers

Romans 8:9-11

Changing the World

We have equated changing the world with being famous. But this isn’t what Jesus showed us, it isn’t how He modelled it, and not what He’s calling us to.

Changing the world **ISN’T** about being famous or an influencer. This is the power of a movement: We aren’t responsible for healing everyone, but we take responsibility to love one person, in whatever way the Father tells us, we change the world.

Jesus tells us in Luke 19 that the reward of Kingdom obedience is more responsibility. If we feel called to be famous, an influencer beyond our relational circles, how well are we stewarding those relationships?

How Do We Partner with the World Changer?

We start by accepting His offer of new life, resurrection life, through relationship with Him.

Then, with the gift of the Holy Spirit given to us at that point, we go about practising this resurrection life, changing the world for each person we meet.

Jesus did it through speaking about this good news; He did it by breaking the work of the enemy in people's lives; He did it by bringing healing to bodies and hearts.

Response

Have you decided that you want Jesus to change your world? He's ready and willing to step into your life and set it right – to give meaning and worth back to your life. Are you willing to make that response to Him today?

If this is you, then talk to Jesus about this (what we call prayer):

Jesus, I acknowledge that I cannot change my own world with any eternal effect. I invite you to come into my life right now. I acknowledge that I have come up short of your way of living. I need you to forgive me and empower me to live a life with you. I choose to say with all that I am that you are God. I recognise you as the one true authority in my life. I receive Your Holy Spirit right now. Jesus, I choose You today.

Now, let someone know!

Jesus also calls us to pray for healing for those in need. Jesus came to seek and save those who were lost in darkness, and came to bring healing to bodies and minds.

I believe that Jesus is going to bring healing to bodies and minds today. I believe that as Jesus changed the world on the very first Easter, the Holy Spirit wants to bring healing to our emotions and our physical bodies on this resurrection Sunday. If you need healing in your body, heart or mind, be bold and ask Him to heal you today.

Discussion Questions:

1. What large or world-scale events have changed your life?
2. What small events have changed your life?
3. How has your life changed because of them?
4. Jesus lived a 'small' life if we look at global celebrities and influencers of today, yet had world-changing impact. What small things have happened to you that have had a huge impact on your life?
5. How has Jesus made an impact on your life?
6. What would it look like for you to take up Jesus' model of living and working alongside the Father to change people's lives?
7. What does it look like for you to work in the power of the Holy Spirit to be about Jesus' world-changing ministry?
8. Who are the 'ones' – the people God has placed on your frontline – that you are uniquely placed to bring the knowledge and experience of Jesus' good news and world-changing love?
9. What would it look like to do that?
10. How is God challenging you to live more like Jesus? Where are you seeing God stir your heart to change the lives of those around you?
11. Where do you need to experience God's healing? Why not stop and take the time to pray? If you are with other people, why not invite them to pray for these needs as well, asking in faith that God would supernaturally intervene in these situations and conditions to bring healing and freedom.