The Mind of Christ

“Why Did Jesus Have to Die, Even Unto Death on the Cross?”

Pastor Thomas began Bible Study with a recap of “Why Did Jesus Have to Die?” Jesus died:

1. For the All
2. He has Other Sheep
3. Gather Those Who Have Been Scattered
4. To Keep Your “Light on”

Pastor said: We are dealing with the issue of the Great Commission (John 10:16). The sheep hear his voice to lead us in the right way to go. If you are listening then what is he saying?

1) Honor his commandments and
2) He loves you

**John 6: 37:**
37 All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out.

**John 17: 6:**
6 “I have manifested Your name to the men whom You have given Me out of the world. They were Yours, You gave them to Me, and they have kept Your word.

**John 10: 16:**
16 And other sheep I have which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they will hear My voice; and there will be one flock and one shepherd.

Pastor asked: What does God want us to do?

1) Serve and Glorify God
2) Serve Church, Community and Family
3) Be more like Christ and do the work

Pastor said: we need to acknowledge what is messing up our steadfast in being like Christ – anything that would be offensive to God. Jesus died to save humanity. Jesus’ death was vicarious – substitutionary.

Jesus died to save humanity and he died for all sin. He died on the cross to take away our sins. Jesus takes our place on the cross and his death was a ransom for our sins. Jesus redeemed us so therefore he owns us. Jesus has full command and authority over our lives. We can do all things
through Christ who strengthens me (Philippians 4:13). Cast your cares upon the Lord because Jesus cares for you. (1st Peter 5:7). Our hearts must supersede the Scribes and Pharisees since we must have a clean heart. Jesus takes our place to liberate and also empower us to be missionaries.

John 10: 1-4:
“Most assuredly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door, but climbs up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber. 2 But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. 3 To him the doorkeeper opens, and the sheep hear his voice; and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. 4 And when he brings out his own sheep, he goes before them; and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice.

Pastor said: Jesus died for all humankind; he is our personal Lord and Savior. We are in the world, but not of the world; we are the light of the world. Jesus wants us to be responsible and do the following:
1) Spread the Good News
2) Minister to Others
3) Tell Others about the Saving Grace of Jesus

When the spirit of the Lord sets you free, then you won’t be in bondage any longer – you don’t want to go back into the world. You must know God for yourself and then your personal relationship will be intact. You will be able to share your faith with others when that happens. We must let others know that there is a God in Zion who loves us so much.

Pastor further said: If we have so much faith, then we must share our faith with someone else. We must ask the Holy Spirit to share our faith. God is asking us to share with someone what he has done in our lives – just share what we have.

Pastor asked: How are you going to make the best of the rest of your life? Pastor spoke about the “Parable of the Leprosy” (Luke 17:11-19). There were 10 lepers who needed healing from leprosy. All ten lepers were healed by the priest and only one returned to say “thank you” to Jesus. This leper came back with gratitude for his healing and he was thanking Jesus for the rest of his life; it was the one’s faith that healed him. “We must have the Spirit of Gratitude to share our faith with others.”

Next Bible Study is on Tuesday, October 9th at 7:00pm.