Nothing Lost

I’m sitting in the San Clemente Library and the Love of God is pouring out over you all and listening online. I start crying- I can’t stop. When I come to preach, I imagine what I want to happen in the life of the congregation, the individuals.

My heart for is this morning is that we would be living and experience the fullness of the GOSPEL the promises would reach us.

In London they have an underground rail system called the TUBE and the oldest line is the metropolitan line and it was built way back in 1890 and it was built mostly straight paths but on the corners that curve the platform to step onto the tube is not flush- so there is a repeated message over the speakers that says “mind the gap” “mind the gap” “mind the gap”

I believe this morning that many of us have some gaps on what we have read in the word and what we are living and experiencing. We read he is love, have your experienced the Love of God, we say he gives wisdom liberally to those who ask, have your experienced the wisdom of God? This morning- I ask that we remain open to the gap in our hearts and let God lead us into TRUTH this morning about who he is and what he’s made available to those who believe!!!

The whole life of Jesus is a response to the pull, the polar attraction of the Father's will. Remaining completely faithful to the father is what nourishes and sustains him.

 Spectacular miracles and free food are not the point of His mission on earth

We are in the book of John chapter 6:35-40 is our text this morning.

ESV

Verse 35 that Pastor Carl finished his sermon with last week, which if you haven’t heard that for some reason, go back on our “You tube” gototherock and the message is I AM THE BREAD OF LIFE

This is important he is the bread of life, bread in our day is good,but it’s not that big of a deal we love bread and in fact bread in many restaurants is free, it’s an extra, its brought to your table and you can take it or leave it, it’s just there, its free and you eat it as you wait for the meal, Nobody goes out to steak house to eat bread,but in Jesus’s day Bread was not the side dish it was the main course.Bread is mentioned over 300 times in the bible, In fact it was established in the beginning ESV Genesis 3:19 by the sweat of your face you shall eat bread- this is Adam when he came under the curse of labor and its addressing in the beginning you see it established as the main meal considered over in Genesis 19 when Lot was in Sodom and Gomorrah and 2 angels came and he mentions preparing a feast listen to Genesis 19:3

And there was a feast prepared and it says:

ESV Genesis 19:3 But he pressed upon them strongly, so they turned aside to him and entered his house. and he made them a feast and baked unleavened bread and they ate.

Can you imagine if you were on your way home from a long day and your spouse said, I have made you a feast and you say oh Good I didn’t have time to eat and you come in and say what to we have “BREAD, you would say “AND” where’s the food. A feast was called a feast- Jesus was always breaking bread, it was the main meal!!! The last supper had one item on the menu, and it was BREAD! Bread was not an afterthought, bread was not a take it or leave it, a side dish.

Jesus is saying I AM THE MAIN THING!!! I am central I am the satisfaction I am the life.

It’s not some free breadbasket that we take it or leave it.

He is the source he is the life!!!!! He is essential. I am the very core of your existence! You are STARVING today; you need the bread of life. Jesus is why we are here, he is the main thing of Church of our families, bring bread home!

It’s all in him, it always will be. You want abundant life make Jesus the main thing every day!

FEAST on his glory and goodness.

Ecclesiastes says” what is the chief end of man- to glorify God and enjoy him forever!!!

Read: John 6:36-40 But I said to you have seen me and yet do not believe. All that the father gives me will come to me and whoever comes to me I will never cast out. For I have come down heaven, not to do my own will but the will of him who sent me. And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me but raise it up on the last day. For this is the will of my Father that everyone who looks on the son and believes in him should have eternal life and I will raise him up on the last day.

So just to share again where we are in these verses, the day before Jesus is speaking to a crowd in the valley of Gennesaret and the miracle of the fish and the loaves and feeding the multitudes, so now these verses are a new location, the crowd went the next day to the same location where Jesus was the day before and he wasn’t there- so people are taking aquatic ubers across water to locate him- He is now speaking to a gathering in the large synagogue in Capernaum and the crowd must have been packed to capacity. But now mixed in among this gathering were Pharisee’s from Jerusalem who had come up to Galilee to confront him. Jesus had not gone down to Jerusalem for Passover probably because it had become dangerous for him to do so. And it was not Gods appointed time for him to die.

So, the Pharisee’s are in the gathering this day and it seems their hostile presence influences the tone of his words. The crowd we have discovered was pursuing Jesus for the wrong reasons. Some just want miracles and free food. But I also imagine within this crowd some loved God. It’s a mixed group and Jesus knows this, and his word and tone are much more confrontational. “I said to you that you have seen me and yet do not believe.” These types of words only apply to those who are engaged in deliberate fully informed rejection, not to those who are ignorant or confused. He did not speak this way to the crowd that pursued him around the Lake. He said to them that like it says in verse 26: Jesus answered them truly truly I say to you you are seeking me not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves.

But with the religious leaders in this new day and new gathering he speaks to people who who knew they were rejecting the truth and yet oddly it was these religious leaders who understood the spiritual meanings of the claims he was making about himself, better than even his own disciples. They understood what he meant when he called himself the bread of heaven, they understood what he meant when he claimed to be the son of God and they understood him to say he would rise from the dead after 3 days. Yet this was the group that plotted to kill him. They had come up to Galilee only to gather evidence they could use against him in a religious trial.

So, in front of this entire synagogue Jesus explains the reason such people didn’t believe in him, basically he said the reason they didn’t love him was because they didn’t love God. Verse All which the father gives to me will come to me and the one coming to me I will by no means throw out. Even in this mixed gathering Jesus knew even not all the religious leaders’ hearts were hard – he still invited the hungry and the thirsty to believe in him and as he did, he made a promise to each one. He said if they believed in him, he would care for them and guard them until the day they didn’t need it anymore, He wasn’t just asking them to commit themselves to him, he was committing himself to them. Later in the Gospel of John Jesus introduces himself as “the Good Shepherd” No one will snatch them out of my hand.

But we can already hear that shepherd’s heart in the words he spoke that day in the synagogue in Capernaum.

V 37 all who belonged to the father would come to him

He would not reject anyone

He said saving people was his assignment

Vs 39 he said the father instructed him not to lose one of those he gave to him, but that he was to watch over each one until he resurrected them to eternal life.

The reference to not casting any out clearly refers to his role at the end of the age, it means that when he sits on his throne of judgement, he will not cast any of those who believe in him out of God’s kingdom.

That’s tremendous good news and a truth that we need to embrace.

He then goes on to tell the congregation in Capernaum that when he left heaven and came to earth, he came with a very specific assignment from the Father and added that he was completely committed to fulfilling it. He said his assignment was to find those who belong to the Father then do everything necessary to protect and nurture them so that every single one of them could be included among the righteous who he would resurrect at the end of the age. The language he uses places such a strong emphasis on preserving the faith of every believer until each one receives his or her eternal reward.

This is the will of him who sent me that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me- but raise it up on the last day.

He’s so committed to you and brining you to your eternal reward.

You must not miss this extraordinary truth

Jesus is clear on his assignment and it’s to nurture and protect and not lose you!!!!

You ever thought you lost something precious you would never get back?

I recall a time when my mother-in-law was visiting, and she was going to be away for a while so she brought a satchell with precious jewelry and valuables. She had only been in town for a short bit mad we caught word that she thought the precious items had been possibly stolen or lost, she was distressed and shared it with us. I can’t say I have some find it ability, but I could tell stories of lost and found items and my strategy is I pray “God you know exactly where it is, lead us to it. Well many days had passed I had prayed to help them locate the items and nothing had happened, well the next week my family was over at their home for a special occasion meal and we were getting the table set and my sister in law says Anna grab the serving utensils out of the right drawer in the credenza, so I go into the drawer and I reach in and something is blocking the utensils, it was my mother in laws satchel. The relief and joy was experienced in the room that day.

He is so clear in this text he issued a call to believe and a promise to those who responded in faith. He assured them they would not walk into the future alone; he would go all the way with them all the way to the judgment seat of God.

Some have lost parents and people who you could never imagine life on earth without. Jesus is with you to the end. He’s the only one who will ensure you are not lost. That you receive your eternal reward.