



BETHEL MISSIONS FAIR - "ALL IN"

Sermon Notes

Guest Speaker: Leanne McAlister

Text: Mark 12:41-44

Intro:

For the religious leaders, giving was a bit of a show.

Mark 12:38-40 - Jesus rebukes the religious leaders for the hypocrisy. He doesn't attack their teaching, only their behaviour.

Psalm 68:5

The Pharisees not only didn't care for the vulnerable; they exploited them.

The Widow

- Deep sacrifice
- Deep trust
- Deep reward

The widow didn't just put her pennies in the pot; she put her whole self in.

Application:

- Put your whole self in the plate
- Give until it hurts
- See & help the vulnerable

Life Group Discussion

Warm up:

1. What is your personal experience with “Missions” work? Have you gone on a missions trip? Do you know any missionaries personally?
2. We normally think of missionaries as people who go to a foreign country to set up ministries and outreach to unreached people. But there are unreached people right here in Penticton. What would it look like for regular believers to act like missionaries in their home town?

Study & Discussion:

1. Read Mark 12:38-40. Before Jesus watched the widow give her offering, he rebuked the pharisees for their hypocrisy. What was his point? What was wrong with their actions? Why doesn't Jesus attack their teaching too? Also read and discuss Matthew 23:1-12.
2. Now read Mark 12:41-44. In light of Jesus' rebuke against the Pharisees, what is he trying to say about the widow? What is Jesus measuring when he says that she gave “more” than those who gave large gifts? Why is this important to understand?
 - It is hard to imagine what it would have been like for the widow to put in “all she had to live on.” Why would she do this?
 - How do we balance the clear teaching here to be radically generous with the need to be “wise” in our personal finances (i.e. not giving so much away that we can't feed our kids).
3. Leanne's message was titled “All In.” How does the widow's offering relate to missions? What would it mean for you/Bethel to be “all in” in regard to missions?

Application:

1. What does it mean for you to “put your whole self in the plate”?

Prayer:

1. Pray for our new mission partners, The McAlisters, Tim Schindel & the Wylies.
2. Other Requests
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