

WEEKLY GAME PLAN

“Idiotes” for Jesus

Read Acts 3:6-10

Context: Peter and John had no worldly advanced training. They were “*Idiotes*,” a Greek word meaning common or untrained. They were not part of the educated elite, and therefore were not considered people to be listened to about important matters. What they did have was 3 years under the direct training and supervision of Jesus Christ Himself. What they did have was an indwelling of the Holy Spirit. What they did have were eyes that were open to seeing what others could not, or would not. What they did have, they were willing to give away.

Reflection Question: How do you see yourself and your role in the family of God? You may be an “idiot” from the world’s perspective, but what miracles have you witnessed when you’ve been willing to do things God’s way? How can you focus more on what you do know about what Christ has done for you than what you don’t know about Him?

Read Acts 4:1-7

Context: Verse 2 tells us that the priests, captain of the temple guard and the Sadducees were “greatly disturbed,” or thoroughly pained, that the apostles were teaching. They thought that right should be reserved for them with all of their training and position. But they just couldn’t escape the fact that those who had seen the miracle of healing the lame man were willing to believe what Peter and John were saying about Jesus.

Reflection Question: How can you tell others what Jesus has done for you, even if you are not classically trained in scripture? Why might you feel unqualified to share the gospel with others? What can you do to overcome this lie of the enemy?

Read Acts 4:8-12

Context: Paradox- A seemingly absurd statement, proposition, or way of thinking that when investigated further in fact proves to be the truth. The paradox of this situation was that the disciples were untrained by man, but people listened and followed their teaching anyway. This was because they were filled with

the Holy Spirit and had been trained by Jesus. They were simply willing to be used by the Holy Spirit to effect change in the lives of those around them. This doesn't require special training. This requires a willing heart and the courage to look to God for your justification. They were willing to be in a position where they needed the power of the Holy Spirit to do what they were trying to do. They weren't worried about looking foolish in the eyes of man. They were only concerned about how Jesus viewed them.

Reflection Question: What keeps you from sharing what Christ has done for you with others? How can you talk to God about your concerns about this and ask Him to help you overcome these fears, or insecurities? How often do you put yourself in a position where you need the Holy Spirit to succeed?

Read Acts 4:13, 1 Corinthians 1:26-28, Matthew 11:25

Context: The world may see us as "idiotes," but God sees our hearts. God sees our humility, where the world sees a doormat. God sees denying self, where the world sees taking advantage of us. God sees patience, where the world sees retreat. God sees courage, where the world sees foolishness. God sees sacrifice, where the world sees loss. But God will show the world that we have been with Jesus when we have the courage to share what He's done for us with them.

Reflection Question: How are you willing to be viewed by the world in order to follow Jesus completely? How can you be someone that doesn't just know the Word of God, but knows the God of the Word? How will you astonish those around you this week by what you are willing to share with them about the goodness of Jesus in your life?

Read Acts 4:21-22, Acts 5:28-29

Context: It's incredible how confounded people are when God does the miraculous in the lives of those the world thinks don't deserve it. The world can threaten and scoff and intimidate, but God will protect and guard and uplift those who make Him Master of their lives.

Reflection Question: Who are you consciously choosing to serve this week, God or self? What is promised to us when we choose to serve God above all others? Why is this worth it? Who is going to get to praise God because of what happens in your life?

End in prayer. Take courage! The one you serve is greater than the one in the world.