

WHAT WOULD JESUS DO?

John 4:31-38

Introduction / Review:

1. A Difference in Priorities

A) The disciples priority is lunch (John 4:31-33)

> Eating food isn't a bad thing – is it?

In fact, we are to eat and drink to the glory of God (1 Corinthians 10:31)

> Their focus on food precludes their awareness of people

B) Jesus priority is His mission, a mission that is focused upon people

> “I have food to eat that you know nothing about.” (John 4:32)

Remember what Moses said in Deuteronomy 8:1-3

Remember Jesus' answer when tempted in the wilderness? (Matthew 4:1-4)

> Obedience to the Father's will and the fulfillment of Jesus' mission directed His steps
(John 4:4, 34; Luke 19:10)

NOTE: There is something that exceeds Jesus' desire for and need for food – His mission

The disciples are so occupied with the issues of their life that they are oblivious to mission

Jesus is so occupied with His mission that He is oblivious to His need for food

If we want to be like Jesus, our mission must be our priority.

2. A Difference in Perspective

A) For the disciples, this small Samaritan village was a necessary stop to get food and water to strengthen them for their journey.

> Their mission was to get to Galilee

B) For Jesus, this small Samaritan village was a necessary stop to fulfill His mission (John 4:4, 35)

- > Jesus left Jerusalem because of opposition from the religious leaders (John 4:2-3)
- > Jesus is going to Galilee where He will have opportunities for ministry (John 4:43-45)
- > Along the way, Jesus saw an opportunity for ministry (John 4:35)

NOTE: 13 men traveling together on the same journey and are in the same situation

The 12 disciples are oblivious to what God is doing while Jesus is fully engaged in what God is doing.

3. A Call to Be Like Jesus (John 4:36-38)

A) The Illustration – agriculture

- > Sowing Reaping Rejoicing

B) The Application - evangelism

- > Imagine hearing Jesus' words in their context (John 4:35)

Standing by the well and looking toward Sychar

Jesus points to a group of Samaritans coming from town toward the well

Their white robes in sharp contrast to the green fields around them

Jesus opens His disciples eyes to see what God sees

This isn't the time eat lunch

This is the time to reap a harvest (John 4:39-42)

A time for great rejoicing (Luke 15:7)

C) The Significance

- > The fulfillment of Messianic prophecy (Amos 9:11-13)

- > To be like Jesus

Demands a commitment to do the Father's will – the Great Commandment

Demands a commitment to do our work – the Great Commission

Sowing and reaping knowing that God gives the increase (1 Corinthians 3:5-7)

Rejoicing when one who was lost is found (Luke 15:7)