

Characters - Herod

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August 13th, 2023

REVIEW LAST WEEK'S NEXT STEPS

What, if any, next step did you commit to last week, how did it go?

- I will take off the mask and stop faking it in an area of my life.
- I will ask God to help me see my sin the way he sees it.
- I will be honest to God and to someone I trust about this area of my life.
- I will confess my sin and receiving God's forgiveness for the first time in my life.
- I will commit to change this area of my life.

THIS WEEK'S SERMON RECAP

In this message, we trace the chronology of Jesus' struggles with the power structures of his day. And we learn that Jesus actually had a spirit of defiance whenever the kingdom of God got opposed. It's inspiring and motivating to follow such a leader. May we be filled with the same kind of courage as we face opposition in our day.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. When your community, country, or world is unjust and exploitative, should Christians stay quiet avoiding conflicts and rather focus on spiritual growth and stability of the community, or should Christians speak out against the society's iniquities?

2. Was there a time when you were not courageous enough to take a public stance for what you believed to be right because you were afraid that no one may agree with you? Would you share those experiences with the group?

3. Encountering opposition does not mean you are wrong. Sometimes we face antagonism when we try to do what is right and feel the pressure to withdraw. While supporting the marginalized, when you encounter mass opposition engendered by fear, what would you do, and why?

4. What is your own personal cost of discipleship?

5. Jesus spoke out against the wrong being done in the society defiantly. But also, he would retreat to the other side of Galilee from time to time. Though each case is different, could there be any general guideline or principle that can be helpful for Christians to determine when to speak out against the wrong and when to show restraint?

6. When there is injustice in the society, such as oppression or inequality, should churches get involved? Or should churches be apolitical?

7. What can you personally do to bring the kingdom of God to your own places of challenges?

NEXT STEPS FOR THIS WEEK (COMMIT TO GROW)

- I will bring the kingdom of God to my little part of the world this week.
- I will consider where my Galilee is (the hardest place to live out the kingdom of God).
- I will do what I need to do to bring the kingdom into my Galilee.
- I will consider who/what plays the role of Herod Antipas in my life (threatening and intimidating).
- I will do what I need to do to make changes for the sake of the kingdom of God.

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES

- Luke 19:11-15
- Luke 19:27-28
- Luke 3:1-2
- Luke 3:18-20
- Matthew 4:12
- Luke 14:28-30
- Luke 7:24-25
- Luke 8:1-3
- Luke 9:7-10
- Luke 13:31-34
- Acts 5:36-37

Prayer Request(s)
