

RADICAL

Part 1 - What the Gospel Demands

Luke 14:33

Nick Ford, Senior Pastor

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Do we really BELIEVE the Bible?

1. DO WE BELIEVE WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT THE CHURCH?

(Luke 9:57-62...)

- Will we choose comfort or a cross?
- Will we choose maintenance or mission?
- Will we choose indecisive minds or undivided hearts?

2. DO WE BELIEVE WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT THE LOST?

"This will happen when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven in blazing fire with his powerful angels. He will punish those who do not know God and do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. They will be punished with everlasting destruction and shut out from the presence of the Lord and from the majesty of his power."

2 Thessalonians 1:7-9

"If anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire." Revelation 20:15

Over **4.5 billion** people (including hundreds of thousands in the greater Phoenix area) today are on a road that leads to eternal hell.

- Will we choose indecisive minds or undivided hearts?

3. DO WE BELIEVE WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT THE POOR?

- Today, over a billion people live (and die) in desperate poverty (less than a dollar a day).
- Close to two billion others live on less than two dollars a day.
- **30,000** children today will breathe their last breath due to either starvation or a preventable disease.
- We are not inconvenienced by this extreme poverty because those stricken by it are not only poor... they are *powerless*.

God measures the *integrity* of our faith by our concern for the poor.

(Proverbs 14:31, Proverbs 21:13, Proverbs 28:27, Luke 6:20-25, James 5:1, Matthew 19:21-23, Matthew 25:41)

The Necessary Conclusion...
IT IS TIME TO GET RADICAL.

Luke 9:57-62 - ⁵⁷As they were going along the road, someone said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go." ⁵⁸And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head." ⁵⁹To another he said, "Follow me." But he said, "Lord, let me first go and bury my father." ⁶⁰And Jesus said to him, "Leave the dead to bury their own dead. But as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God." ⁶¹Yet another said, "I will follow you, Lord, but let me first say farewell to those at my home." ⁶²Jesus said to him, "No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."

Proverbs 14:31 - "Those who oppress the poor insult their Maker."

Proverbs 21:13 - "If a man shuts his ears to the cry of the poor, he too will cry out and not be answered.."

Proverbs 28:27 - "He who gives to the poor will lack nothing, but he who closes his eyes to them receives many curses."

Luke 6:20-25 - "Blessed are you poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. Blessed are you that hunger now, for you shall be satisfied... Woe to you that are rich, for you have received your consolation. Woe to you that are full now, for you shall hunger."

James 5:1 - "Come now, you rich, weep and howl for the miseries that are coming upon you."

Matthew 19:21-23 - "Jesus answered, 'If you want to be perfect, go, sell your possessions and give to the poor and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.' When the young man heard this, he went away sad, because he had great wealth. Then Jesus said to His disciples, 'I tell you the truth, it is hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven.'"

Matthew 25:41 - To those who do not feed the hungry and clothe the naked, Jesus says, "Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels."