

The Poured Out Life

13 - The Art of Rest
Church on the Park | Sunday, 09 Nov 2014

Bring a pitcher and cup

Text: Luke 6:38, Mark 14:24

Theme: Jesus poured out his life for us so that we can pour out our lives for him

Intro: My daughter had to do a school project on a hero of faith and she chose David Wilkerson. At first, she didn't know the impact that he had on my life. She only knew about his life from a comic book version of the Cross and the Switchblade. But then, as she did the project she learned the blessing he had been to me and to her as well. I'm very proud that my daughter chose David Wilkerson because he lived a poured out life for God.

One of the messages he spoke was called "A Poured Out Life." If I look hard enough I could probably find the cassette. I don't remember the specifics of the message, but it had a deep impact on my life. The gist of it was God wants us to live a poured out life for him.

Today, I want to speak to you about the poured out life. I'm not going to copy David Wilkerson's message, but instead share what God has put on my heart for this morning.

1) Jesus lived a poured out life

- In the Old Testament there was something called the "**drink offering**." It was an offering that was **poured** out before the Lord (Exo. 29:38-46).
 - All the animal sacrifices, also, called for the **pouring** out of all **the** blood on the altar.
 - The idea behind the **blood**, is the **giving** of one's **life** and **soul completely** to God.
 - We need to remember that this was an offering of **worship**.
- This was a **picture** for all of us.
 - **First and foremost**, it's a **portrait** of **Jesus**, who poured out his life before the Father
 - Ultimately, he poured out his life on the **cross** (**Eph. 5:1-2**).
 - **Second**, it's an **example** for **us**. We will talk about what it means for us later.
- First, Jesus poured out his life in **worship** to the Father. And next, he did it for **us**.
- Let's talk about the **cross**:
 - These words capture what Jesus experienced on the cross: "I am **poured** out like water, And all my bones are out of joint; My heart is like wax; It is melted within me" (Ps 22:14).
 - Isaiah's prophecy of the cross says: "Therefore I will give him a portion among the great, and he will divide the spoils with the strong, because he **poured** out his life unto death, and was numbered with the transgressors. For he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors." (Isa. 53:12)
- Jesus himself explains what the cross is all about in Mark 14:24
 - Jesus pours out his blood to initiate the new covenant (Luke 22:20)
 - A **covenant** is like a **contract**, but much **deeper**. A covenant is the most intimate binding agreement between two parties. At its heart its not business, but **personal** and **relational**.
 - It's summed up in what God continually says about his covenant in the Word, "You will be my people and I will be your God."

- You are in a **covenant relationship** with God through Jesus.

2) Pour out your life for Jesus

- In other words, **don't hold anything back**. Give everything in worship to Jesus. This is what it means to be a **disciple** (Luke 9:23). This is what it means to take up your cross.
- The story of David and his men. *1 **Chron. 11:15-19**
 - Once you have a revelation of the **cost** of the cross, like David, you can not **self-indulge** in the offering of Christ. You must pour out your life in worship to the Father.
 - There's some that **selfishly indulge** in the sacrifice of Christ, not reciprocating the love.
 - God has truly given us the water from **Bethlehem!**
- Often in relationships, there is a **giver** and a **receiver**. If you are on the receiving end, you should always look to **give back**. What ways can I give back? (1 Cor. 9:9-12)
- Are you just offering a **few drops** to the Lord? Or, are you pouring out the whole cup of your life to him?
- **Paul** lived a poured out life. (Phil 2:17; 2 Tim. 4:6)
- Mark 14:3 - The example of the woman with the **alabaster jar** (Mark 14:1-9)
 - "A year's wages" - Today, in Australia, about \$50,000.
- You may **say**, "I have nothing to give."
 - Everybody has something to give
 - The example of ****The poor widow** with the two mites (Mark 12:41-44)

3) The Father pours himself into those who are poured out

- Luke 6:38
- **Elijah and the widow** (1 Kings 17:7-24)
- When we **pour ourselves** out we must also make sure we receive **God's fresh outpouring into us**.
- This is what rest is really about. **Receiving** God's outpouring of life so that we can again pour ourselves out for him.
- When you live to give it opens up your life to the **miraculous**.
- The father loves to reward his obedient children
- Live to give. **Mal. 3:10**

Conclusion: Jesus poured out his life for you so that you can pour out your life for him. A poured out life in worship to God is the normal Christian life. And the good news is that when we pour ourselves out, the Father promises to pour himself in. He is a good host.