



NOW – [?] – NEXT

John 5:17

¹⁷ But Jesus replied, “My Father is always working, and so am I.”

Philippians 2:14-15a

¹⁴ Do everything without grumbling or arguing, ¹⁵ so that you may become blameless and pure, “children of God without fault in a warped and crooked generation.

What comes **OUT** of us reflects what is happening **WITHIN** us.

Matthew 15:19

¹⁹ For out of the heart come evil thoughts—murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false testimony, slander.

Luke 6:45b

For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of.

To be **SELFLESS** is to reflect the love and hope of Jesus.

Philippians 2:15b-16a

Then you will shine among them like stars in the sky
¹⁶as you hold firmly to the word of life.



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How to choose Jesus as Lord:

- 1) Admit you, like everyone else, need new LIFE in Jesus.
- 2) Ask God to forgive your sins by the sacrifice of Jesus.
- 3) Receive new LIFE from God by trusting in Jesus as your Savior & Lord.

You can do that right now by simply talking to God in a prayer like this:

Dear Lord Jesus, I know I am a sinner, and I ask for Your forgiveness. I believe You died for my sins and rose from the dead. Today, I receive you as my Savior; and I put my faith in you as my LORD. Help me to live for you all the days of my life. In Your name, Amen.

If you chose to follow Jesus today, text “FAITH” to 309-250-2007 to receive additional information about next steps in following Jesus.

For Further Reflection:

:: Share ways you successfully/unsuccessfully chose to RESPOND and not REACT this past week. What happened? What would you do differently if you could?

:: Re-read Philippians 2:12-16. What about this passage of Scripture do you find encouraging, challenging or surprising?

:: Pastor Justin said, “What comes out of us reflects what is happening within us.” Where have you experienced this out or around you?

:: As you’ve navigated this challenging season have you found yourself ‘grumbling and arguing’? If so, how has this impacted your life? Relationships?

:: Take a moment to do a self-assessment of your life. Consider your interactions with yourself, with others and any social media presence you may have. Are your interactions reflecting the love and hope of Jesus? Why or why not?

:: What area(s) you asking God to work in you this week so that you can faithfully live selflessly and follow the example of Jesus?

:: Ask someone you trust to pray for you and to hold you accountable.

Unless otherwise noted, today’s Scripture is from the New International Version [NIV].

Justin Barnes (@justinnbarnes) – May 23 & 24, 2020

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