

Sunday Leftovers

Sermon Title: "What Starts Here Changes the World"

What's this message about – What Starts Here, Changes the World! Those may not have been Jesus' exact words when He commissioned His disciples before ascending into heaven, but the inference was clear! He knew that by being His witness and making disciples wherever they went they would be changing the world.

We talked last week about how people in Bible times had an advantage over us because it was easier to see how God played a part in the growth of their crops and/or the birth of their animals. When they offered a sacrifice of thanksgiving they could see the smoke from their gift drifting to the heavens. Today, though not as obvious, we have the advantage of watching our offering, when we offer it with thanksgiving, produce changed lives that have an ongoing, far-reaching impact on our world. Our offerings can, and do play a very personal, tangible role in changing our world.

Questions for discussion:

- *What do you think was the main point of Matt's message?*
- *If you knew that your offering produced "changed lives" would it affect your willingness to give? Why?*
- *In what (tangible) ways can our offerings, right here at Dayspring, change the world?*

Do something about it:

Take a moment to think about your church. As you picture yourself sitting there on a Sunday morning or another day of the week consider the people who are there. Ask yourself, "Are these lives being affected by what we are doing here? Will they take what they have learned/experienced out into their homes and workplaces? How will the cumulative affects of all those people impact the world?" Now think about how all those other people have contributed to your experience there. How has it changed you? Has it influenced the way you interact with your family, friends and co-workers? Can your influence be felt outside of where you live and work? If you can say yes to any of the aforementioned questions than your offering is making a very tangible impact on our world. This week is commitment Sunday. Prayerfully consider how you can make a commitment to offer your best to God so that He can multiply your investment to influence the lives here and throughout our world.

Digging deeper:

Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 2:40-47; 8:4-40; 9