



BUILT 2 BLESS #11

Focused Living Ministry

*“Pray that God will open
to us a door for the Word
so that we may speak forth
the mystery of Christ...”*

Col 4:3

On December 26, 2004 a series of huge 100 ft high waves were created by underwater earthquakes known as the “**Boxing Day Tsunamis**” killing 230,000 people in 14 countries. At first the phenomena pulled water out hundreds of yards from the shore line luring thousands of families and entire communities out to see the newly exposed sea floor covered with shimmering shells, spectacular rock formations and sunken treasures. A perceptive few tried to **WARN** them all but in the end there were not enough folks sounding the alarm and of the ones who heard... few listened. Soon the tsunami waves, traveling at 300 mph, returned to overcome the people and destroy everything in its path. In much the same way millions of men and their families in the USA are being enticed by the shimmering, spectacular treasures of this world and lured away from the principles and promises of God. And there are very few who love them enough to warn of the tsunamis of sin overtaking our nation or helping to lead them to the higher ground of Christ. (Adapted from Tim Hanley) **Where do you see evidence of men focused on the treasures of this world oblivious to the coming tsunami? Are you aware? Who first warned you of the coming tsunami and pointed you to Christ (Col 1:13-14)? Who will you warn?**

TWO GREATEST LIES (Francis Chan) Has a family member or friend bought into either lie? Have you? How do these lies keep others from listening to anyone who tries to way them about the coming tsunami?

WINSOME WARNINGS The Apostle Paul understood all too well the coming tsunami of sin and judgment. So he challenges the God-built men of Colossae to bless a friend or family member by telling them of God’s awesome grace in Christ. As a TAG Team list 5 principles of compassionately warning others of the coming tsunami from **Colossians 4:2-6**.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

IT ALL STARTS WITH PRAYER (Col 4:2-4) Lord, I pray that you draw would _____ to Yourself (John 6:44) and that they would someday soon seek to know You (Acts 17:27) so that they would not have to experience Your coming tsunami of judgment? I ask that _____ hear and believe the Word of Your truth for what it really is (1Thes 2:13) so that they would hear Your clear warning. I beg You, Lord, to prevent satan from blinding _____ to Your truth (2Cor 4:4; 2Tim 2:25-26) and that You, Holy Spirit, would convict _____ of their sin to show them their need for Christ’s redemption (John 16:7-14). Please, Lord, send someone (Matt 9:37-38), even if it’s me, to share the gospel of Your grace and forgiveness with them and may _____ respond with joy (Acts 13:48; 16:14). I also ask that you give me the pen door opportunity, the courage and the right words to share real soon how you have impacted my life with _____ (Col 4:3-6; Eph 6:19-20) so that _____ also turn from their sin to follow Christ (Acts 17:30-31; 1Thes 1:9-10). Father, just as You never grew tired of pursuing me, may you also give me the deep desire to continue to love _____ no matter the cost or how long it takes (Acts 17:17; Col 1:28-29).

WINSOME WORDS (Mark 5:1-20) After saving His disciples from a fierce storm (4:35-41), Jesus steps out of a boat only to be confronted by a demon possessed man (5:1-6). This lewd nude dude in a crude mood recognized Jesus as “*the Most High God*” so Jesus casts his 2000 resident demons into a herd of pigs that then drowned in the Sea of Galilee (7-13). Seeing that the cost for following Jesus was too high and their faith too low, the city asked Jesus to leave (14-17). But the formerly demon possessed man begged to follow Jesus (18).

(19-20) Where did Jesus send him? Why? Where has Jesus sent you?

(7:3 to 8:9) Because he obediently went where Jesus sent him, who showed up and how many came to see Jesus a few weeks later when He passed through Decapolis? Who powerfully could Jesus use you if you go where He sends?

(19) What did Jesus tell the man to say to his friends and family in order to warn them of the coming tsunami?

What 2 great things has the Lord done for you?

- 1.
- 2.

In what 2 ways has the Lord shown mercy in your life?

- 1.
- 2.

ASSIGNMENT As a formerly sin filled, mentally unclean, spiritually imprisoned demon chasing man who hurt himself and others, will you now as a Jesus follower step forward in faith to tell just one person what Jesus has done for you and how He has shown you His merciful grace? Who? When? Where?

PENN JILLETTE As a Tag Team discuss what words or challenge you heard from this atheist? How should it affect your life and priorities?

I OBSERVE (Acts 17:16-34)

1. Where and how did Paul warn his marketplace friends of the coming tsunami?
2. What insights from this passage might help you to speak to where others are in their spiritual journey?
3. What did Paul observe to the men in the marketplace where he reasoned every day?
4. How did he speak to what he observed?
5. What have you observed in the life of a friend and how might you speak “Christ” into that situation?



TAG TEAM DISCUSSION

What is your primary take away? What will you do to live out these that truth?