

What emotions do you recall feeling as Scott worked us through the “people auction”? Why?

Could you relate to the concept of “Slacktivism”? (the desire people have to do something good without getting out of their chair.” Have you seen it in our culture? Have you found it in yourself?

What’s the first thing that comes to your mind when you hear the word “sacrifice”?

Here are the three dictionary definitions that were suggested...

-The act of offering something to a deity in propitiation or homage, especially the ritual slaughter of an animal or a person.

-Relinquishment of something at less than its presumed value.

-To forfeit (one thing) for another thing considered to be of greater value.

What are the practical differences between the last two and how does that affect our view of sacrifice?

Quotes of significance...

Jesus “For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it; but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it. Mt 16:25

Jim Elliot “*He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose.*”

C.T. Studd, the famous cricket captain turned pioneer missionary, declared: “*If Jesus Christ be God and died for me, then no sacrifice can be too great for me to make for Him.*”

The challenge of David Livingstone rings out to us today: “*Can that be called a sacrifice, which is simply paid back as a small part of a great debt owing to our God, which we can never repay ... it is emphatically no sacrifice. Say rather it is a privilege!*”

John 15:13 “Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends

Dionysius the Bishop of Alexandria in 260AD. He wrote at the conclusion of a five year plague that at its height killed 5,000 people a day and by the end two out of every three inhabitants of the city.

“Most of our brother Christians showed unbounded love and loyalty, never sparing themselves and thinking only of one another. Heedless of danger, they took charge of the

sick, attending to their every need, ministering to them in Christ, and with them departed this life serenely happy; for they were infected by others with the disease, drawing on themselves the sickness of their neighbors and accepting their pains. Many, in nursing and curing others, transferred their death to themselves and died in their stead. The best of the brothers lost their lives in this way”

Read together Mt 26:6-13.

- What is the equivalent of the alabaster vial in your life?
- Have you made sacrifices for Jesus in the past that were resisted by others?
- What sacrifice is He calling you to make today?