

WELCOME TO STRONGSVILLE: Strong Message, Strong Delivery

LUKE 3:15-38

Dr. Matt Shackelford ■ Central Church ■ February 14, 2020 ■ Social Media: #Strongsville

A Strong Message Deserves Strong Delivery.

1. Deliver the **Debt** of Sin (3,15,19-20).
2. Deliver the **Warning** of Judgement (17).
3. Deliver the **Hope** of Salvation (16,18-22).

Luke 3:15-38 (ESV)

“As the people were in expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Christ, 16 John answered them all, saying, “I baptize you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. 17 His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.” 18 So with many other exhortations he preached good news to the people. 19 But Herod the tetrarch, who had been reproved by him for Herodias, his brother's wife, and for all the evil things that Herod had done, 20 added this to them all, that he locked up John in prison. 21 Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heavens were opened, 22 and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form, like a dove; and a voice came from heaven, “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.”

The Genealogy of Jesus

Vss 23-38

WELCOME TO STRONGSVILLE: We Cannot Stay Silent

LUKE 3:15-38

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

1. You and I are called to sound the alarm of sin and God's judgement. However, we're not called to be needlessly offensive, obnoxious, or abrasive. The Gospel, by its very nature, is offensive. How can we winsomely call our friends, neighbors, and coworkers to repent and believe on Jesus Christ?
2. When we see sins happening around us should we call out the sins that the world feels is acceptable? If so, how can we do this with wisdom and love?
3. When we witness, there should be a message of both grace and law in our gospel presentation. As the old adage goes, "Law to the proud, grace to the humble." Under ideal circumstances, when should you transition the conversation to talk about the grace of God?
4. What part of John's evangelistic zeal will you seek to add to your life this week?
5. **Read 2 Corinthians 4:7-8.** In the sermon Pastor Matt mentioned that we're like "jars of clay" or "FedEx boxes." And, just like a delivery vessel, what is expected of "a good vessel?" A bad one? What can we learn from this delivery-image that applies to our calling as God's delivery vessels?

Quote for the Week. . . by John Piper



Nature teaches us that every believer should be a soul-winner. [As Andrew Murray said,] "It is an essential part of the new nature. We see it in every child who loves to tell of his happiness and to bring others to share his joys. Missions is the automatic outflow and overflow of love for Christ. We delight to enlarge our joy in Him by extending it to others. As Lottie Moon said, "Surely there can be no greater joy than that of saving souls."