

The Lord Jesus Always Needs You **(April 5, 2020 by Rev. Anthony Menzel)**

Happy Palm Sunday!!!

The title of today's message is **The Lord Jesus Always Needs You**

This title refers to the fact that we should walk with the Lord Jesus not just on Sunday but every other day of the week, too.

1) We have to be real with the Lord...

It is very important to study the Word of God...

Scripture 1: Joshua 1:8

⁸ This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you^[a] shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.

But it is even more important to live it...

Scripture 2: Romans 2:11-24

¹¹ For there is no partiality with God.

¹² For as many as have sinned without law will also perish without law, and as many as have sinned in the law will be judged by the law ¹³ (for not the hearers of the law *are* just in the sight of God, but the doers of the law will be justified; ¹⁴ for when Gentiles, who do not have the law, by nature do the things in the law, these, although not having the law, are a law to themselves, ¹⁵ who show the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and between themselves *their* thoughts accusing or else excusing *them*) ¹⁶ in the day when God will judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ, according to my gospel.

The Jews Guilty as the Gentiles

¹⁷ ^[d] Indeed you are called a Jew, and rest^[e] on the law, and make your boast in God, ¹⁸ and know *His* will, and approve the things that are excellent, being instructed out of the law, ¹⁹ and are confident that you yourself are a guide to the blind, a light to those who are in darkness, ²⁰ an instructor of the foolish, a teacher of babes, having the form of knowledge and truth in the law. ²¹ You, therefore, who teach another, do you not teach yourself? You who preach that a man should not steal, do you steal? ²² You who say, "Do not commit adultery," do you commit adultery? You who abhor idols, do you

rob temples? ²³ You who make your boast in the law, do you dishonor God through breaking the law? ²⁴ For “the name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles because of you,” as it is written.

Those who did the law without knowing the law

It reminds me of my grandmother Carmen...

She always prayed, but because of her religious tradition, she did not study the Bible much until she was in her 70's and 80's...

However, she told me Acts 20:35 with even reading that verse in the Bible

Scripture 3: Acts 20:34-35

³⁴ ¶ Yes, you yourselves know that these hands have provided for my necessities, and for those who were with me. ³⁵ I have shown you in every way, by laboring like this, that you must support the weak. And remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’ ”

She was one of the most selfless people I have ever met, and one of the best examples of what a Christian should be, even more than many ministers...

She always tried to think about and help other people...

In that, I try to be like her...

I try to put other people first...

A very important part of being real with the Lord Jesus is being real about our weaknesses...

We are not going to measure up right away to a lot of things that we see in God's Word...

Scripture 4: 1 John 1:9-10

⁹ If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰ If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.

Sometimes we may want to be selfish or lazy or judgmental or mean, for example...

However, when we read God's Word and see that we are not measuring up in some area, then being real with the Lord Jesus means that we make it

our purpose to change, asking God in Jesus Christ's name to change us and taking steps to make that change a reality...

For example, we can choose to call the people God puts on our heart to call instead of watching TV...

We can choose to get up early to pray for the nation and special people in our lives instead of sleeping in...

We can even fast in some way as part of asking God to make positive changes in our lives...

Scripture 5: Matthew 17:21

²¹ [a] However, this kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting."

2) As we seek to grow in the knowledge of the things of God, we have to remember that faith works through love...

While we cannot give what we don't have, we should try to give what we do have to give...

Scripture 6: 1 John 3:16-18

¹⁶ By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down *our* lives for the brethren. ¹⁷ But whoever has this world's goods, and sees his brother in need, and shuts up his heart from him, how does the love of God abide in him?

¹⁸ My little children, let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth.

Many of us have stored a lot of things during this pandemic...

If someone is in need, we should be prepared to share with them...

If Abundant Love had a building, I definitely would want to be involved in food distribution or delivery at this time...even if it meant leaving the food outside people's doors, or distributing it with a scarf around my face and gloves on my hands...

Scripture 7: Galatians 5:6

⁶ For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but faith working through love.

We have to try to make time for people...

There is a saying that people don't always remember what you tell them, but they do remember how you make them feel...

Scripture 8: Luke 10:27-37

²⁷ So he answered and said, “ ‘You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind,’ and ‘your neighbor as yourself.’ ”

²⁸ And He said to him, “You have answered rightly; do this and you will live.”

²⁹ But he, wanting to justify himself, said to Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?”

³⁰ Then Jesus answered and said: “A certain *man* went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among [i]thieves, who stripped him of his clothing, wounded *him*, and departed, leaving *him* half dead. ³¹ Now by chance a certain priest came down that road. And when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. ³² Likewise a Levite, when he arrived at the place, came and looked, and passed by on the other side. ³³ But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was. And when he saw him, he had compassion. ³⁴ So he went to *him* and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine; and he set him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. ³⁵ On the next day, [i]when he departed, he took out two denarii, gave *them* to the innkeeper, and said to him, ‘Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, when I come again, I will repay you.’ ³⁶ So which of these three do you think was neighbor to him who fell among the thieves?”

³⁷ And he said, “He who showed mercy on him.”

Then Jesus said to him, “Go and do likewise.”

We have to start our ministry in our homes, with our own families and with our own selves...

Scripture 9: 1 Timothy 5:3-8

³ Honor widows who are really widows. ⁴ But if any widow has children or grandchildren, let them first learn to show piety at home and to repay their parents; for this is [a]good and acceptable before God. ⁵ Now she who is really a widow, and left alone, trusts in God and continues in supplications and prayers night and day. ⁶ But she who lives in [b]pleasure is dead while she lives. ⁷ And these things command, that they may be blameless. ⁸ But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.

Scripture 10: 1 Timothy 3:1-5

This *is* a faithful saying: If a man desires the position of a [a]bishop, he desires a good work. ² A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, temperate, sober-minded, of good behavior, hospitable, able to teach; ³ not [b]given to wine, not violent, [c]not greedy for money, but gentle, not quarrelsome, not [d]covetous; ⁴ one who rules his own house well, having *his* children in submission with all reverence ⁵ (for if a man does not know how to rule his own house, how will he take care of the church of God?);

3) We all want God to heal our land...

We all want the Corona virus to go away...

Then spiritually we need to give the Lord Jesus all that we can now and until He calls us home...

Living according to what we believe...

Walking in repentance, asking the Lord Jesus for extra mercy both for us as His believers and for the people in the United States and our countries of origin who are currently not following Him...

We need to ask for the spiritual awakening that will truly bring healing to our land...

Scripture 11: 2 Chronicles 7:13-14

¹³ When I shut up heaven and there is no rain, or command the locusts to devour the land, or send pestilence among My people, ¹⁴ if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

Scripture 12: Ezekiel 22:30-31

³⁰ So I sought for a man among them who would make a wall, and stand in the gap before Me on behalf of the land, that I should not destroy it; but I found no one. ³¹ Therefore I have poured out My indignation on them; I have consumed them with the fire of My wrath; and I have recompensed their deeds on their own heads," says the Lord GOD.

Scripture 13: Acts 3:17-21

¹⁷ "Yet now, brethren, I know that you did *it* in ignorance, as *did* also your rulers. ¹⁸ But those things which God foretold by the mouth of all His

prophets, that the Christ would suffer, He has thus fulfilled. ¹⁹ Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, ²⁰ and that He may send [c]Jesus Christ, who was [d]preached to you before, ²¹ whom heaven must receive until the times of restoration of all things, which God has spoken by the mouth of all His holy prophets since [e]the world began.