BE THE MESSAGE Part 1

9-20-15

"*Preach the Gospel at all times and when necessary use words.*" Francis of Assisi

• What the world ______ should be consistent with what we

John 1:1-2 - In the beginning was the <u>Word</u>, and the <u>Word was with God</u>, and the Word was God. 2 He was with God in the beginning.

To the Greek philosophers, the logos was the impersonal, abstract principle of reason and order in the universe.

John 1:3-14 - Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. ⁴ In him was <u>life</u>, and that life was the <u>light of men</u>. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it. ⁶ There came a man who was sent from God; his name was John. ⁷ He came as a <u>witness to</u> <u>testify concerning that light</u>, so that through him all men might believe. ⁸ He himself was not the light; he came only as a <u>witness to the light</u>. ⁹ The true light that gives light to every man was coming into the world. ¹⁰ He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not receive him. ¹² Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God- ¹³ children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God. ¹⁴ The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

John 14:16-17 - And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever-¹⁷ the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be **in** you.

John 15:26-27 - "When the Counselor comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father, <u>he will testify about</u> <u>me</u>.²⁷ And you also <u>must testify</u>, for you have been with me from the beginning.

Jesus' life message is the gospel. And we are the witnesses to that life message today. Jesus is the word. The word is the gospel. Christ, the word, lives in you. We are a billboard of the gospel of Christ.

My Life Message: My unique message of Christ to the World

So how do I discover my life message and align my life with it?

1. LISTEN FOR

1 Kings 19:11-12 - The Lord said, "Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by." Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains apart and shattered the rocks before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake. ¹² After the earthquake came a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire came a **gentle whisper**.

2. RECOGNIZE YOUR SACRED ______. "God whispers to us in our pleasures, but shouts to us in our pain. It is His megaphone to rouse a deaf world." C. S. Lewis

John 1:14 - The Word became flesh...

Hebrews 4:15 - For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are - yet was without sin.

Don't hide from your pain, your weakness, your failures and mistakes because so many times it's your mess that God takes and turns into your life message.

Luke 5:31-32 - Jesus answered them, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. ³² I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance."

3. EMBRACE YOUR ______. "Disturb us Oh Lord, when we are too pleased with ourselves, when our dreams have come true because we dreamed too little, when we arrived safely because we sailed too close to the shore!" Sir Francis Drake

John 1:14 - The Word became flesh and blood, and moved into the neighborhood. (MSG)

• You can ______ than nothing.

• You can love the one in ______ of you. Ephesians 2:10 - For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Discovering My Unique Life Message:

- Read a chapter a day in *Be the Message.*
- Practice *The Divine Whisper* at the end of each chapter.
- Complete the section, *Love the One in Front of You,* at the end of each chapter to apply what you're learning.
- To host or join a community group go to the community group table in lobby.