**Don’t Be Like Bob, Take a Breath (Study Notes)**

**Luke 17:20-37**

What are some things you have learned during this time of isolation?

Where have you seen God working?

1. **Don’t Be Like Bob (Pharisee)**

* **Read verses 20-21**
* Don’t try to make God’s Word fit your agenda, your expectations or preconceived ideas.
* These Pharisees wanted to know when the Kingdom of God should come. They had their personal expectations, preconceived notions.
* They want God’s Kingdom to lift the Jewish nation up above all other nations. They wanted God to make things right, the way they felt it should be.
* What was Jesus’ answer in verses 20 &21?
* What does “the kingdom of God is within you” mean?
* How should “the kingdom of God is within you” reflect in the lives of believers?
* How can believers be used of God in the times we are living in?

1. **Don’t Get Dragged into being Obsessed by Bob, Karen of Susan.**

* **Read 22-25**
* Jesus warns the disciples to not get obsessed, lose focus of their jobs for the king.
* He even tells them that they won’t see the 2nd coming of Jesus and to watch out for those that try and lead them astray.
* Jesus revealed a prophecy that was going to take place in their lifetime. What was it? (verse 25)
* It is possible to spend lots of time fretting about the future and how will this all end or will it end! But today is where God is concerned. Today is where He wants to meet you, provide for you.
* What happens if we get caught up in the what if’s and the what will happen next? (worry)
* How does worry hurt believers?
* We must be careful; we can get SO caught up in the what is going to happen next, that we can lose our focus, on why, how and what are we doing for Jesus. Why are we here? Why currently in history?

**Matthew 6:34, “Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.” ESV**

* God’s Kingdom is both present and future. The Kingdom of God has a dual meaning. In addition to be an invisible kingdom in your heart, the Bible also reveals the Kingdom of God has a future aspect. There will be a literal, visible kingdom of God in the future. Sometime in the future Jesus will literally rule over all the nations. One day the “government will be on his shoulders” will be here.
* What can we do in these days of uncertainty and worry?
* How can we encourage others?

1. **Don’t Allow Bob, or Karen’s Worldly Concerns Dim Your Desire/Devotion for Jesus and His Plan.**

* **Read 26-28 & 33-36**
* Don’t be a Mrs. Lot
* A literal translation would read: They were eating, they were drinking, they were marrying, they were being given in marriage.”
* Have you ever stopped and wondered why Noah’s neighbors were so hard to convince?
* They were not necessarily evil, they were just too busy eating and drinking, marrying and burying, conducting business. It was not their sin, as great as it was, that damned them to destruction, it was there indifference. They were just too busy to think about the impending judgment.
* The point is that when we live our lives for the things of the world, we lose the life that God intended us to live.
* All these activities stress the preoccupation and the indifference of these people.
* Another thing I have learned during the Covid 19 virus is that I can become get swept up in worldly matters.
* I need to tell others that Jesus is God’s grace and mercy to mankind. Without a personal relationship in Jesus, God’s judgment will come.
* Judgment and justice are coming…but my job isn’t to assign judgement, my job is to point to the one who can set them free or bring the judgement.
* Verses 31-36 talk about how fast that judgement will come.
* What can we do now?
* If we escaped judgment, like Mrs. Lot, how should we be living?
* What will you take from where we are now?