



June 23, 2024 – Created to Be...an Agent of Change

Have you ever had something happen that changed your whole perspective on something? Maybe you learned a new skill, or a new truth. Maybe you tried something you've always been afraid of and finally jumped through your fear...into an amazing, glorious "different"! This is what happens to us when we allow ourselves to encounter the real Jesus – we are changed. And in that changing we then get to go out and change the world around us! Seems overwhelming at times, but it can be a whole lot of fun! Join us this weekend as we discover how to be "agents of change" with Jesus' love!

Scripture:

Acts 1:6-11

So when the apostles were with Jesus, they kept asking him, "Lord, has the time come for you to free Israel and restore our kingdom?" ⁷He replied, "The Father alone has the authority to set those dates and times, and they are not for you to know. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." ⁹After saying this, he was taken up into a cloud while they were watching, and they could no longer see him. ¹⁰As they strained to see him rising into heaven, two white-robed men suddenly stood among them. ¹¹"Men of Galilee," they said, "why are you standing here staring into heaven? Jesus has been taken from you into heaven, but someday he will return from heaven in the same way you saw him go!"

John 13:31-34

³¹As soon as Judas left the room, Jesus said, "The time has come for the Son of Man^h to enter into his glory, and God will be glorified because of him. ³²And since God receives glory because of the Son,^u he will give his own glory to the Son, and he will do so at once. ³³Dear children, I will be with you only a little longer. And as I told the Jewish leaders, you will search for me, but you can't come where I am going. ³⁴So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. ³⁵Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples."

Questions:

- Think about your "spheres of influence" – those places you spend your days around. Work. School. Home. Wherever. Make a list of all the places you spend time on a regular basis. Then make a list of the people who are in those places.
- Look at your list. How might you take the concept of loving others, looking out for others, into those lives? How might you be able to impact lives for good with the love of Jesus? (whether they know it's the love of Jesus or not doesn't matter!)
- If we are to be agents of change in this world, we actually have to be intentional about it. Take time this week to choose one or two places/people we want to shower with the love of Jesus. How will you do this? How can you impact lives?

Reading for the Week:

Monday: Phillipians 2:14-16

Tuesday: Colossians 1:15-20

Wednesday: Romans 12:1-2

Thursday: Mark 10:45

Friday: James 1:5