

**Introduction:** We discussed Praying with purpose. But what about being a witness with purpose? What is that about. It is about more than you might think. We have also discussed the warnings God gave us about “The Love of Most Growing Cold” (Matthew 24:12); that the end will not come except there first be a great falling away (2 Thess.2:3); many Christians will become Lukewarm (Rev. 3:16); and Jesus asking: “When I return, will I find faith on the earth?” (Luke 18:8). We agreed last Sunday that the only solution to this would be for each individual believer to take their **spiritual life** very seriously and continue to monitor our spiritual life so that we do not become **complacent**.

**Another way we can avoid becoming Lukewarm, is being obedient to Christ command to Matthew 28:19-21** <sup>19</sup>“... go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. <sup>20</sup>Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

**Text: Matthew 25:31-46** <sup>31</sup>“But when the Son of Man<sup>(d)</sup> comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit upon his glorious throne. <sup>32</sup>All the nations<sup>(e)</sup> will be gathered in his presence, and he will separate the people as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. <sup>33</sup>He will place the sheep at his right hand and the goats at his left. <sup>34</sup>“Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the creation of the world. <sup>35</sup>For I was hungry, and you fed me. I was thirsty, and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger, and you invited me into your home. <sup>36</sup>I was naked, and you gave me clothing. I was sick, and you cared for me. I was in prison, and you visited me.’ <sup>37</sup>“Then these righteous ones will reply, ‘Lord, when did we ever see you hungry and feed you? Or thirsty and give you something to drink? <sup>38</sup>Or a stranger and show you hospitality? Or naked and give you clothing? <sup>39</sup>When did we ever see you sick or in prison and visit you?’ <sup>40</sup>“And the King will say, ‘I tell you the truth, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters,<sup>(f)</sup> you were doing it to me!’

**Jeremiah 29:12-13** ‘Then you will call upon Me and come and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. You will seek Me and find Me when you search for Me with all your heart.’

**Hebrews 10:25** “And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.”

## Outline:

- I. **You Need to Be Serving the Lord When He Returns:**  
**Matthew 25:31-46**

- How can He trust you with His Kingdom and allow you into His Kingdom and Heaven if you never showed enough interest in The Place to Serve There while here?

## **II. You Need to Know the Lord and Have a Relationship with Him, When Jesus Returns!**

**Jeremiah 29:12-13**

**Matthew 7:23** <sup>23</sup>Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!'

- How will He know to let you into His Kingdom and trust you enough to allow you to come into His Perfect Place Prepared for us, if you never took the time to get to know Him? Why is He going to let a stranger, who neglected to spend any time with Him into This Perfect Place called Heaven?

## **III. You Need to be in the Practice of Gathering in Worship with other Believers when Jesus Returns.**

**Hebrews 10:25**

- How will God let you into His Heaven, when you would not even attend His Church? He sent His Son to Die for the Church. **Acts 20:28** "So guard yourselves and God's people. Feed and shepherd God's flock—his church, purchased with his own blood—over which the Holy Spirit has appointed you as leaders.
- How could God trust us to get along with others in Heaven for eternity, if we would not even gather with other covered by the blood believers, get along with them, worship with them and serve His Kingdom with them while here on earth?
- How can one go to His heaven if they would not even go to His church?

## **IV. You Need to be Witnessing to others and Helping others Grow Spiritually when Jesus Returns.**

- How will God let you into Heaven, If you did not obey Jesus' final and most important command: "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation." Mark 16:15?
- How can He trust us to Enter this Perfect Place, if we never showed enough interest in it to tell anyone else about it or how to get there?
- These really all go back to Number 1: Serve the Lord. And you do that by obeying Him.
  1. Pray – have a relationship.
  2. Be in church.
  3. Witness to others.