

▼ **In the Shadow of the Cross - Part 4**

Rocklyn Clarke Sr. - Sunday September 30, 2018

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- **Read the Passage: Matthew 20:17-34**
- ▶ **Purpose of the Sermon (what listeners should do)**
- ▶ **Understand the details of the passage.**
- ▶ **Understand what Jesus is trying to accomplish and the significance of the disciples' response.**
- ▶ **Understand our own response to the cross.**
- ▼ **Respond to the cross properly.**
  - ▼ Jesus' impending death on the cross has implications for:
    - his disciples
    - those who are reading this story
    - everyone else
  - The disciples illustrate one way of responding.
  - The cross is not an accident! God wants us to learn from it.
  - The cross is what it takes to solve the problem that God is addressing.
  - The cross means the death of our private agendas.
  - You get crucified for being a threat to the current regime.
- ▼ **Respond to God's warnings properly.**
  - Is God warning you about anything right now?
- ▼ **Demonstrate the Kingdom**
  - Jesus' basic agenda was to proclaim, explain, and demonstrate God's Kingdom.
  - ▼ Jesus' disciples followed him in this agenda.
    - "The Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve . . ." - Matthew 20:28
  - ▼ We need to be about this agenda too!
    - "Why have you been standing here all day long doing nothing?" - Matthew 20:6

- “As Jesus was going up to Jerusalem” - Matthew 20:17
- ▼ Key questions:
  - What have you done?
  - What are you doing now?
  - What are you going to do next?
- ▼ Most of us can answer these questions:
  - on our jobs
  - at school
  - in our homes
  - Many Christians can’t answer these questions with regard to Kingdom work. Can you?
- ▼ **Outreach - a key component of Kingdom work**
  - Jesus makes his disciples “fishers of men”. - Matthew 4:19
  - Jesus commands his disciples to make disciples of all nations. - Matthew 28:18-20
  - This means that we are to become “fishers of men and women”.
- ▼ Fishing can be done with a rod & reel or with a net.
  - ▼ Rod & reel
    - Casually catch fish one at a time.
    - Solitary activity
  - ▼ Net
    - Coordinated group activity.
    - Someone has to spot the fish. Can you do this?
    - Someone has to sail the boat. Can you do this?
    - Someone has to deploy the net. Can you do this?
    - Someone has to haul the net into the boat. Can you do this?
- ▼ **Discussion:**
  - What role or roles can you play in fishing with a net?
  - Whom can you team up with to fish with a net?
  - How can we help you? Do you need prayer for any of this?