



Life Church Sermon Sheet:

Date: Sunday, June 29, 2025 Rev. M. Dixon

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Title: Luke 16: The attitude and Real struggles of first responder;-Part 4



Scriptures: **Luke 16:1-31, Luke 17: 7-10** **Dealing with our attitude- to be a hero is know you are not one... Just doing your duty.**

The Rich man and Lazarus; Luke 17:7-10

7 "Suppose one of you has a servant plowing or looking after the sheep. Will he say to the servant when he comes in from the field, 'Come along now and sit down to eat'? 8 Won't he rather say, 'Prepare my supper, get yourself ready and wait on me while I eat and drink; after that you may eat and drink'? 9 Will he thank the servant because he did what he was told to do? 10 So you also, when you have done everything you were told to do, should say, 'We are unworthy servants; we have only done our duty.'"

1. This parable was more than a parable. It is an attitude check... Humility is the character of the kingdom...
2. Luke is about parties... (Heaven) and those who choose not to come or reject those who were invited... CHOICE shows our hearts... We serve God, not the other way around. We see a need and fill a need... God wants us to have the right heart, not just the right knowledge.

Group Questions #4 Having the attitude of a true hero!- No Reward needed

Questions:

1. Icebreaker: Have you ever felt Proud for something you did, that got you in trouble or made you look bad? Or the opposite, when you didn't share something good you did? (it was it's own reward)
2. What does this scripture mean to those who heard it, and for us today? David, Luke, Money, the sheep and the goats... I love the acronym- GOAT. Only the prideful sees themselves as Goats...
3. Upside down Kingdom.. The Pharisees were proud of what they were doing, they were proud of their wealth because is showed God's Blessing on them, when really it was a Curse.. It hindered them from getting help. Are we ever upside down? How do we combat this?
4. What things take up Brain Space in our relationships that make us arrogant or proud when we help someone? How can we combat that?

Ability

IS WHAT YOU ARE
CAPABLE OF DOING

Motivation


DETERMINES WHAT
YOU DO

Attitude

DETERMINES HOW
WELL YOU DO IT

- Lou Holtz -





Life Church Sermon, June 29 By MD ^2

REAL HEROES

don't try to be heroes.

**BECOMING FIRST RESPONDERS- THE ATTITUDE AND REAL STRUGGLES OF FIRST RESPONDERS
PART 4- LUKE 16**

**REMEMBERING A FIRST RESPONDER IN OUR MIDST
BILL BAXTER**

THE LIFE OF THE FIRST RESPONDER

- The life of a first responder is a **challenging but rewarding one, involving long hours, exposure to traumatic events, and a significant impact on their communities.** They face immense pressure and risk, often seeing severe injuries, illness, and death, which can lead to psychological and physical health issues. Despite these challenges, many find deep satisfaction in their ability to help others in crisis. (Google Gemini)
- But we don't do it for the Rewards, but because of our Duty to God... That was Bill.
- Our Attitude, our obedience to Authority, our Love for God and His image bearers.. That is essential to God!



FIRST AID PRIORITIES

1. Assess an situation quickly and calmly
2. Protect yourself and any casualties from danger (never put yourself at risk)
3. Prevent cross infection between yourself and the casualty
4. Comfort and reassure casualties at all times
5. Assess the casualty (identify, as far as you can, the injury or nature of illness affecting a casualty)
6. Give early treatment and treat the casualties with the most serious (life threatening) conditions first
7. Arrange for appropriate help
8. Stay with a casualty until care is available

Week #4 Running to those in need

LUKE 16

PRACTICAL ASPECTS OF PRIORITY... LESSONS FROM CPR!

Week 4: How do we beat our father to the Prodigal son?

Our Attitude impacts our Choices!

**I was made for this, versus-
Do they deserve my help?**

See THEM as God Does!

THEM- Image bearers hard to Love and enemies, especially.

**So there is NEVER
any hesitancy to help!**

BEING READY FOR FIRES

- **Jesus is returning...** As Christians we may debate when, but we all agree, He's coming back. There will be wars and Rumors of wars.. We have that in spades...
- **We need to be ready.** As an EMT You need to know that People's Pain in the point of contact with God's Grace! WE ARE OFTEN THE POINT OF CONTACT GOD CHOOSES!!!!
- **We need to be healthy and Prepared ourselves and have more in our storehouses than we need!** *9 I tell you, use worldly wealth to gain friends for yourselves, so that when it is gone, you will be welcomed into eternal dwellings.*
- **BE READY for emergencies yourself! What does this look like? Training, Resources, Making sure the ambulance has gas...** Just saying... Get Cash out... If the Grid goes down... have some Water and food in case of emergencies... and if you have some to share that would be amazing. This was not part of the sermon, but Something to think and pray about.
- **REMEMBER- THE FIRST RULE of helping someone in an emergency is to check the scene... Avoid, move the patient from or get rid of things that can cause harm!** Jesus is checking the Pharisees and the Sadducees regarding Marriage... and those who could not protect themselves... Women!

FIRE FIGHTING EXAMPLES

- Being Saved from Certain Death in the Bible:

- **God's examples**

1. Noah- from a Flood
2. Rahab- Being defeated and killed in Jericho
3. Daniel (lions) and his Team (a real Fire)
4. Jonah- Worthy of Rescue?

- **Man's Examples**

1. Abraham (Rescues Lot Gen 14)
2. David Rescues his and his men's families (I Sam 30)
3. Paul Rescues his Shipmates with Prayer (Acts 27)
4. Paul rescues Philemon from Slavery (human trafficking)

DAVID AND HIS FAMILY 1 SAM 30

³ When David and his men reached Ziklag, they found it destroyed by fire and their wives and sons and daughters taken captive. ⁴ So David and his men wept aloud until they had no strength left to weep. ⁵ David's two wives had been captured—Ahinoam of Jezreel and Abigail, the widow of Nabal of Carmel. ⁶ David was greatly distressed because the men were talking of stoning him; each one was bitter in spirit because of his sons and daughters. But David found strength in the LORD his God.

⁷ Then David said to Abiathar the priest, the son of Ahimelek, "Bring me the ephod." Abiathar brought it to him, ⁸ and David inquired of the LORD, "Shall I pursue this raiding party? Will I overtake them?"

"Pursue them," he answered. "You will certainly overtake them and succeed in the rescue."

⁹ David and the six hundred men with him came to the Besor Valley, where some stayed behind. ¹⁰ Two hundred of them were too exhausted to cross the valley, but David and the other four hundred continued the pursuit.

¹¹ They found an Egyptian in a field and brought him to David. They gave him water to drink and food to eat— ¹² part of a cake of pressed figs and two cakes of raisins. He ate and was revived, for he had not eaten any food or drunk any water for three days and three nights.

¹³ David asked him, "Who do you belong to? Where do you come from?"

He said, "I am an Egyptian, the slave of an Amalekite. My master abandoned me when I became ill three days ago. ¹⁴ We raided the Negev of the Kerethites, some territory belonging to Judah and the Negev of Caleb. And we burned Ziklag."

DAVID AT ZIGLAG CONTINUED

NOTICE THEIR EXHAUSTION

¹⁵David asked him, "Can you lead me down to this raiding party?"

He answered, "Swear to me before God that you will not kill me or hand me over to my master, and I will take you down to them."

¹⁶He led David down, and there they were, scattered over the countryside, eating, drinking and reveling because of the great amount of plunder they had taken from the land of the Philistines and from Judah. ¹⁷David fought them from dusk until the evening of the next day, and none of them got away, except four hundred young men who rode off on camels and fled. ¹⁸David recovered everything the Amalekites had taken, including his two wives. ¹⁹Nothing was missing: young or old, boy or girl, plunder or anything else they had taken. David brought everything back. ²⁰He took all the flocks and herds, and his men drove them ahead of the other livestock, saying, "This is David's plunder."

²¹Then David came to the two hundred men who had been too exhausted to follow him and who were left behind at the Besor Valley. They came out to meet David and the men with him. As David and his men approached, he asked them how they were. ²²But all the evil men and troublemakers among David's followers said, "Because they did not go out with us, we will not share with them the plunder we recovered. However, each man may take his wife and children and go."

²³David replied, "No, my brothers, you must not do that with what the LORD has given us. He has protected us and delivered into our hands the raiding party that came against us. ²⁴Who will listen to what you say? The share of the man who stayed with the supplies is to be the same as that of him who went down to the battle. All will share alike." ²⁵David made this a statute and ordinance for Israel from that day to this.

²⁶When David reached Ziklag, he sent some of the plunder to the elders of Judah, who were his friends, saying, "Here is a gift for you from the plunder of the LORD's enemies."

²⁷David sent it to those who were in Bethel, Ramoth Negev and Jattir; ²⁸to those in Aroer, Siphmoth, Eshtemoa ²⁹and Rakal; to those in the towns of the Jerahmeelites and the Kenites; ³⁰to those in Hormah, Bor Ashan, Athak ³¹and Hebron; and to those in all the other places where he and his men had roamed.

THE RICH MAN WAS NOT A FIRST RESPONDER...

The Sheep and the Goats Matt 25: 31-46

31 “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his glorious throne. **32** All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. **33** He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.

34 “Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. **35** For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, **36** I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.’

37 “Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? **38** When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? **39** When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?’

40 “The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’

THE SHEEP AND THE GOATS CONT.

41 “Then he will say to those on his left, ‘Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. **42** For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, **43** I was a stranger and you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me.’

44 “They also will answer, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?’

45 “He will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.’

46 “Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life.”

LUKE 17: 7-10

FIRE RESCUE...OUR CHOICES IMPACT OUR RESCUE

⁷ “Suppose one of you has a servant plowing or looking after the sheep. Will he say to the servant when he comes in from the field, ‘Come along now and sit down to eat’? ⁸ Won’t he rather say, ‘Prepare my supper, get yourself ready and wait on me while I eat and drink; after that you may eat and drink’? ⁹ Will he thank the servant because he did what he was told to do? ¹⁰ So you also, when you have done everything you were told to do, should say, ‘We are unworthy servants; we have only done our duty.’”

LUKE 16: 25-31

²⁵ “But Abraham replied, ‘Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, while Lazarus received bad things, but now he is comforted here and you are in agony. ²⁶ And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been set in place, so that those who want to go from here to you cannot, nor can anyone cross over from there to us.’

²⁷ “He answered, ‘Then I beg you, father, send Lazarus to my family, ²⁸ for I have five brothers. Let him warn them, so that they will not also come to this place of torment.’

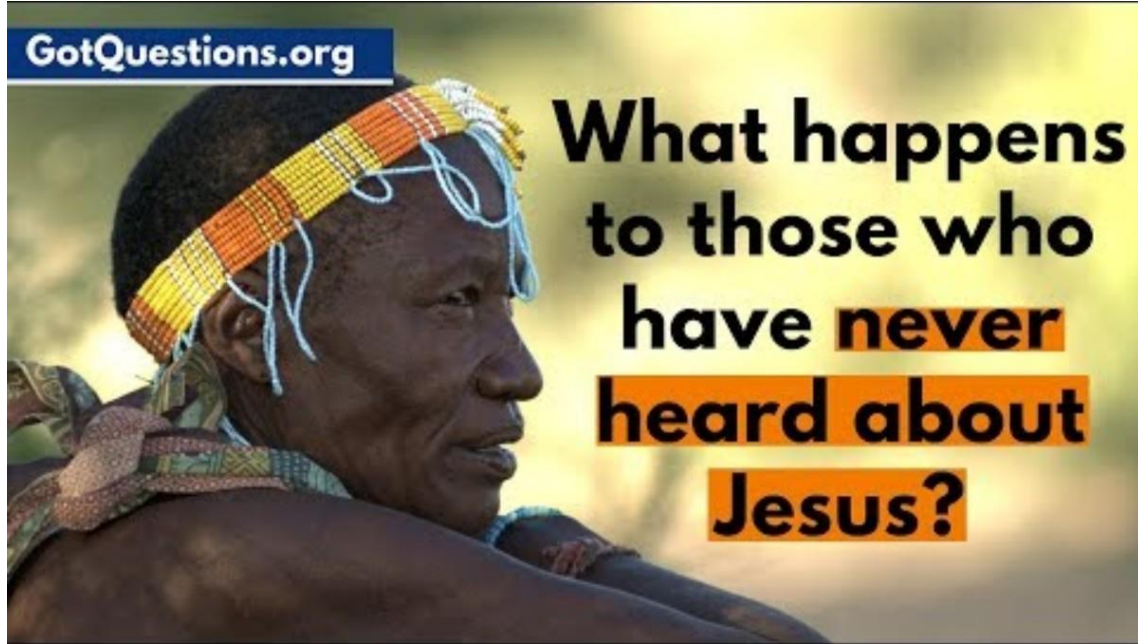
²⁹ “Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the Prophets; let them listen to them.’

³⁰ “‘No, father Abraham,’ he said, ‘but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.’

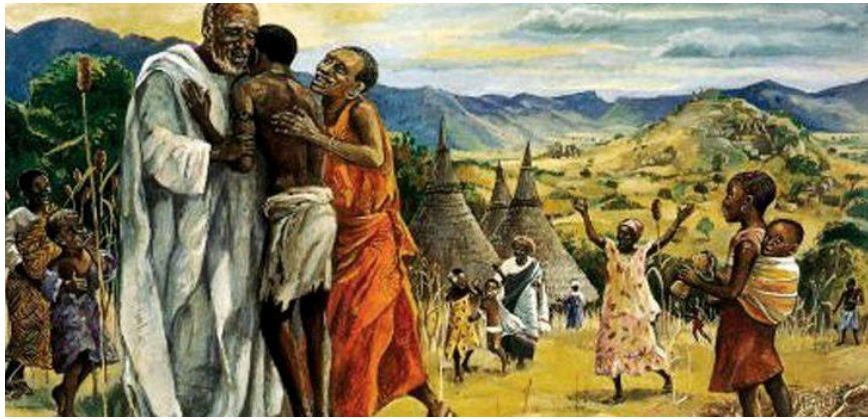
³¹ “He said to him, ‘If they do not listen to **Moses (taking care of the Poor) and the Prophets**, they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.’”

FIRST RESPONDERS HAVE TO RUN IN FOR EVERYONE!!!

- First Responders Can't say it would be better for People not to get rescued, because then Jesus can rescue them himself.
- This is the nature of the Gospel, it is Rejectable!
- Is Hell Fair? It is a stumbling block for many people.. How Can a loving God punish people for a bad choice?

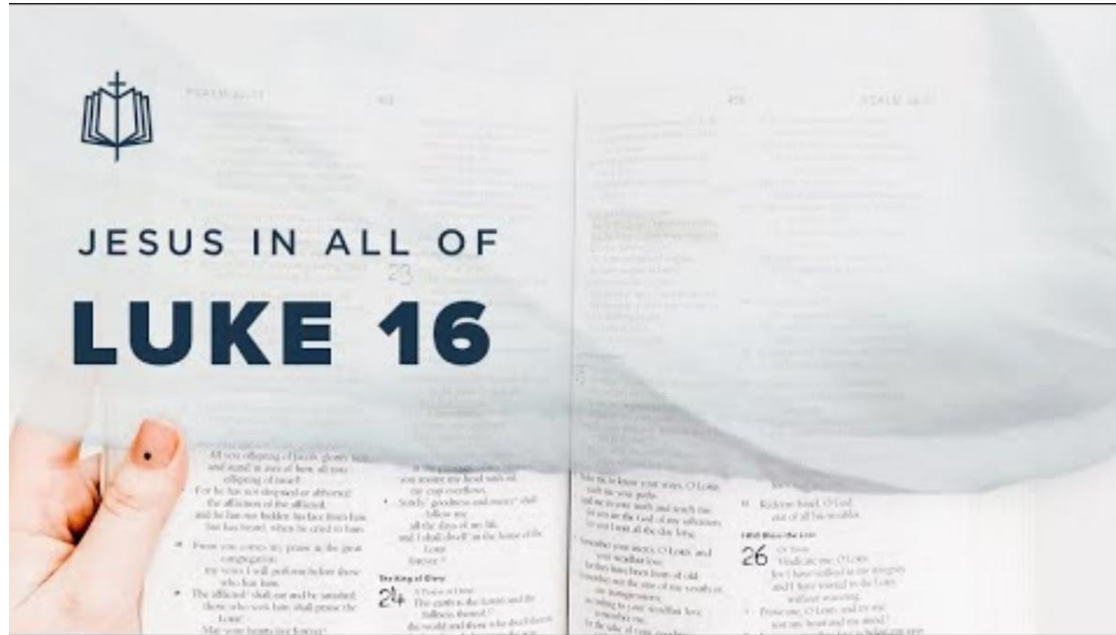


MORE THAN A PARABLE... THE PARABLE WITH A CHOICE- WHICH BROTHER DO WE WANT TO BE?



- The Prodigal Son... is a story about 2 brothers... But what if we were a 3rd Brother?
- The Brother who stayed home and spent time with his Dad and loved what and who the Dad loved.
- The brother whose attitude was in check and he Beat his Dad back to his brother... and went into the party, and didn't think anything of it because it was his duty as a son...
- What if that was us!

FIRST RESPONDERS MUST FAVOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK AND IN DANGER



REVIEW:
THE LIFE OF AN EMT IS MOSTLY BORING! ROUTINE, NOT EXCITING! BEING
READY FOR THOSE SPECIAL MOMENTS IS KEY!

- The Life of a first Responder is mostly boring, as we recall from the first week.
- Having a partner is helpful
- We must meet people where they are, not on our terms. The TV will be on...
- The distance we have to go is often longer than we expect.
- We must serve everyone without hesitation or expectation of reward or even Thanks. Jesus helped 10 lepers... only one came back. Jesus didn't need to be thanked.. The Lepers needed to thank!

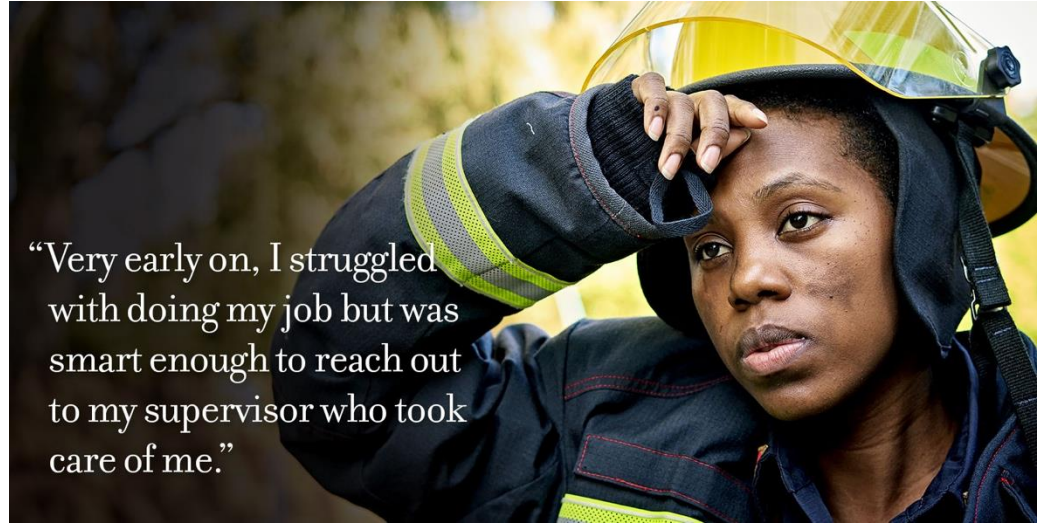


WATCHMEN ON THE WALLS... WE HAVE A LINE TO GOD'S 911

- The Prodigal drowner... If someone refuses to come out of the Fire and fights you tooth and nail, saying there is not Fire, there is no Hell...There is no God... I will just die here... They miss the Party. You can wait for them to come to their senses, but if there are others who will listen you go to them first.
- **We are Watchmen on the walls (EZ. 33:6).** We will not be prosecuted if someone rejects our Pleas. This is tough for us... Narrow is the gate that leads to life, it requires doing things on the Shepherd's terms...
- Remember The fear of the Lord is the beginning of Wisdom. Hell could easily be Hyperbole from God and Jesus... But being apart from God is a Choice that misses the party...

HOW WE CURATE DISCIPLES: INTENTIONALLY LOVE THOSE AROUND US REMOVE THE WALLS AND SHARE OURSELVES!

- Brain Space Exercises... Earworms to anxiety... When you hear about accident on the expressway your child was on... How does this relate to Divorce? We get down on People when we begin to dwell on faults. This is a matter of the flesh... Saul was the Flesh King and he was also the cure for the Flesh...



“Very early on, I struggled with doing my job but was smart enough to reach out to my supervisor who took care of me.”

WHAT DO OTHERS FEEL ABOUT HELL?

Why do I (a Non-Christian) find this religious teaching unacceptable? (From Quora)

Basically, because it offends against all the principles of fairness and natural justice.

- I did not ask to be born, but I am born 'sinful', already destined for hell.
- As a child, I do not choose sin, but it is ingrained in me before I even know what 'sin' is.
- God apparently has made a way for me to have my sins forgiven, by the death of his Son on the cross. But I did not ask for him to do this for me, and I played no part in the trial or crucifixion of Jesus.
- So why should I go through life with a burden of fear that I will end up in hell - not because I have done evil things like murdered, or raped, or tortured kittens, abused children, or robbed pensioners - but simply because I am not persuaded by an illogical and unprovable set of religious beliefs?
- **How would you Respond to this? As a first responder we need to know how to answer this...**



BEING FIRST RESPONDERS..

LET'S REVIEW:

- **Week 4:** Luke 16: 1-31, 17:7-10 The Choice is yours on the Price is right

Group Questions #4 Having the attitude of a true hero!- No Reward needed

Questions:

1. Icebreaker: Have you ever felt Proud for something you did, that got you in trouble or made you look bad? Or the opposite, when you didn't share something good you did? (it was it's own reward)
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3. Upside down Kingdom.. The Pharisees were proud of what they were doing, they were proud of their wealth because it showed God's Blessing on them, when really it was a Curse.. It hindered them from getting help. Are we ever upside down? How do we combat this?
4. What things take up Brain Space in our relationships that make us arrogant or proud when we help someone? How can we combat that?

JESUS' LIFE IS ONE THAT JUSTIFIES HELL. BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO ARE POOR.. SICK...

- Woe unto those who are rich. The OT was about taking care of the Poor, Jubilee, etc.
- Repentance is not turning from sin, but calling 911... I need help or my heart is dammed!
- We would follow you Lord if only you made me know how serious it is... Noah
- We would Follow you Lord if you showed us your Power- Egypt
- We would Follow you Lord, if only you Gave us rules (**LAW**) to Follow- Moses
- We would Follow you Lord, if you only gave us a good King- David
- We would Follow you Lord, if you sent Prophets (**and the Prophets**)..
- We would Follow you if Elijah Returned- John
- We would Follow you Lord if you sent your Son- Jesus
- We would Follow you Lord if you gave your Spirit- NT Church
- We would Follow you Lord if we saw how bad Satan is... Rev.
- We would Follow you Lord if Jesus was on the Throne... (Some of us Believe this will happen too) and Billions will still fall away and Choose to reject the party!
- If this was a court of Law... People would have no excuse... and realize they choose to be separate from God, and there is a Chasm between heaven and their choice.

WE MUST DO TRIAGE IN OUR MASS EMERGENCY SITUATION

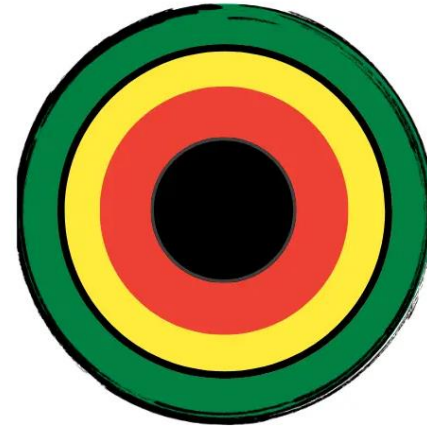
- The **Universal DNR Order**- This was interesting to discover when looking at Mass emergency situations.. Your Resources are not unlimited...
- Various Idaho hospitals have a “Universal DNR Order” implemented into its Crisis Standards of Care Action Plan.

According to an Idaho Department of Health and Welfare document on strategies for patients in “scarce resource situations,” the Universal DNR Order is defined as:

- “Adult patients who are hospitalized during a patient emergency when crisis standards of care have been declared, and hospitals are using mechanical ventilation allocation framework due to high demand of ventilators, that adult patients should receive no attempts at resuscitation in the event of cardiac arrest.”
- This may sound barbaric, however, as unfortunate as it is, it's a possibility if facilities become so overrun without enough resources.

- Source: <https://nursingcecentral.com/code-black-in-hospitals-what-does-it-mean-should-i-worry/>

Triage Categories in Emergency Care



FIRST RESPONDERS GO WHERE THEY ARE SENT, AND WHERE THERE IS NEED...

- This is not about justice, but about Love. Is our Love intentionally unconditional. That is what Jesus was to non-Jewish women- uncalled for in his day! The Samaritan woman, the Syrophenician woman, The unclean woman with an issue of blood, etc.)
- Jesus went to the Lost houses of Israel, but those who called 911, he ALWAYS helped... Mark 7- The Syrophenician woman for example
- The woman from the borders of Tyre and Sidon whose daughter Jesus healed is described as "a Greek, a Syrophenician by race" ([Mark 7:26](#)). Discipleship is managing the call center, to see who we can help and once they are well, helping them help others.
- Taxes pay for first responders, GOD pays those who serve him.



AS DISCIPLES WE CURATE THE WHO WE DISCIPLE AND SERVE AND HOW WE REMAIN HEALTHY ENOUGH TO HELP!

- Who do we serve- We decide. The Pharisees made it clear they didn't want to outreach to romans and gentiles- they were the enemy, and their rules made a wall between them and the gentiles- not just a difference between their gods and rules, but between the people themselves.
- Jesus broke down that wall and was accessible to all!
- Are people Accessible to you?
- Do they think you don't like them?
- What can we do to break walls down but not compromise who we are?
- BRAIN SPACE. How do we keep our Brain space filled with God and Praise for him so we don't get bummed...

