



Holy: Holy Moment March 26, 2023

Speaker: Pastor Joshua Symonette

Scripture: Acts 10, Matthew 28:19-20

Sermon Overview: A Holy Moment is a moment where differences fade into the background and are swallowed up by hope and unity in God's love. Through prayer and intimacy with God, our empathy towards others will grow. As we strengthen the bond of trust with our Lord, we will forge new levels of intimacy in our relationships – even difficult ones.

Sermon Series Questions:

1. What is the Great Commission in Matthew 28:19-20? How does the Great Commission connect to the concept of holy moments?
2. What are some examples of holy moments that occurred in the Old Testament? The New Testament? What are some holy moments that you have personally experienced?

Sermon-Specific Questions:

1. Read Acts 10:10-16, where God asks Peter to kill some unclean animals and eat them. The Lord gives Peter a command and Peter tells the Lord, "No." Have you ever received an instruction from the Lord and told the Lord, "No.?" Peter said, "No," because his previous perception and experience did not match what the Lord was doing. He didn't have a category for it. How was Peter moved to reconsider his perception of how the Lord works? Share if you've had a similar experience.
2. Peter spent three years learning from Jesus – watching Him heal on the Sabbath and eating with sinners. Why do you think it took Peter so long to realize that God's salvation was for all people- Jew and Gentile? What mindsets exist today that might build themselves up against the true knowledge of God? Have you experienced an "ah-hah" moment where you realized you needed to drop an old way of thinking in order to walk in

God's way? Could God be asking you to reconsider some of your current ways of thinking?

3. Pastor Joshua said that many of us have an idea about what represents God's Kingdom, but often, our relationships do not reflect God's Kingdom. What does God's Kingdom look like? How do your relationships reflect God's Kingdom? In what areas do your relationships need nurturing in order to reflect God's Kingdom more clearly? Ask God to reveal areas of growth and specific actions you could take.

Digging Deeper:

- Spend a few minutes in silence. Ask the Lord to reveal to you a person who is in your circle of influence that may need encouragement and support. Ask the Lord to guide your words and interactions with that person so that you can add God's value to their lives.
- The Great Commission in Matthew 28 says, "19 Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all things that I commanded you." In what ways has the "psychology of comfort" outweighed the theology of the Great Commission in your life? What are two ways you could step outside of your comfort zone to live out the Great Commission? Bring these two ideas to the Lord and ask Him for guidance.
- Peter and Cornelius were men who prayed regularly. Pastor Mark says it like this, "And when you pray to God regularly, irregular things happen on a regular basis." Choose a time to pray (for whatever amount of time – 1 minute, 5 minutes, 10 minutes, 60 minutes). Set your alarm on your phone, and make prayer a regular habit in your day.

Practical Application:

- Use this prayer for the week as we revel in and enjoy the magnitude of God's holiness at work in us and around us.

Prayer: Jesus, thank you for being with me always, as You have promised (Matthew 28:19). Even to the ends of the Earth, I know You are with me. Help me to step out in this confidence through my prayer and through my actions to go and make disciples of the nations in my daily interactions.

- Serve at the Easter Sunrise service, April 8 & 9, at ncc.re.serveatsunrise
- Download the NCC app or visit ncc.re/daily to listen to short, daily teachings M-F accompanying this series.
- Make a Bible reading plan a daily discipline and connect with NCC Daily. (Download the [NCC app](#) to find our plan).
- Jump into a small group this semester. They are all listed at ncc.re/groups.

Further Reading:

- "Praying Like Monks, Living Like Fools" by Tyler Staton
- "Draw the Circle: The 40-day Prayer Challenge" by Mark Batterson