LOOSE THE COLT AND UNTYING YOUR POTENTIAL

Mark 11 1-7

This morning, I come to you with what I believe is a positive message. It’s a message for us today. I find that in my times of prayer for this church body, and seeking God for direction, that one resounding theme keeps on ringing in my spirit: there is an incredible potential in this church that God desires to unlock. An incredible possibility for growth, and ministry… and power within this community. There’s a power to facilitate change, and a power to build people’s lives. There’s a potential locked within us if we have the courage to unleash that potential.

Today we’re talking about that very thing. Our passage today is Mark 11:1-7

***And when they drew near to Jerusalem, to Bethphage and Bethany, at the Mount of Olives, He sent out two of His disciples. And He said to them, Go into the village over across from you. And as soon as you have entered into it, you will find a colt tied, on which no one of men has ever sat. Untie it and bring it. And if anyone says to you, Why do you do this? Say that the Lord has need of him, and immediately he will send him here. And they went, and they found the colt tied by the door outside, in a place where two ways met. And they untied him. And certain of those who stood there said to them, What are you doing, untying the colt? And they said to them even as Jesus had commanded. And they let them go. And they brought the colt to Jesus, and they threw their garments on it. And He sat on it.***

Before I proceed I just want to make a couple of observations on the text:

Jesus used a borrowed colt: He Borrowed a boat – to preach from; He used a Borrowed chamber – to eat the Passover meal; He was put in a Borrowed grave.

Everything we have, all of our worldly possessions are borrowed from the Lord

When Jesus told them to “Loose it and bring it to me”. Didn’t anyone ask hang on a minute?

This tells us of the authority of Jesus’ words.

The first thing we need to see about untying our potential is that it will require us to go in directions that we have never gone in before.

This is just days before Jesus was to be crucified. The hour was come for the Son to be glorified. He was about to go to Jerusalem, and suffer a cruel death for the remission of our sins; to be lifted up on that tree. The very one of which He spoke when He said “If I be lifted up, I will draw all men unto me…” This was also Jesus showing His Disciples that He was not going to cower when He came to Jerusalem, He didn’t sneak into Jerusalem, so this would have given strength to them as they were the ones cowering. He was going to be made a curse.

Gal 3:13: ***Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangs on a tree:***
Jesus told the disciples, “***Go get a colt, you’ll find tied up in the city…”***

How many of you know today that in order to bring TRUE glory to God, that sometimes we have to be willing to do some unusual things? We have to be obedient to His voice, even if it doesn’t make sense. We have to be obedient, even when we can’t understand His reasoning. Obedience to God brings Him GLORY. We want HIM to be glorified in us; in our church; in our town. And sometimes that means doing things that are out of the ordinary.

II. So Jesus sent them into the UNUSUAL to INCREASE THEIR FAITH…

God’s request don’t come to us because He is weird. He doesn’t tell us to look into a fish’s mouth for a coin, because He’s strange. He doesn’t use mud in the eyes of a blind man, because He’s weird. He uses the UNUSUAL to get OUR ATTENTION. He uses uncommon things, even the impossibilities of life to BUILD OUR FAITH. It’s one of those things to make us say within ourselves, “THAT HAD TO BE GOD. There’s NO OTHER POSSIBILITY. THERE IS NOTHING ELSE IT COULD HAVE BEEN. He uses the UNUSUAL to make us RECOGNIZE His sovereignty. He uses the BIZARRE to BOLSTER OUR STRENGTH. So Jesus sent them for something UNUSUAL.

***“Go to the edge of town… you’ll find a colt there that has never been ridden.*** (A Colt that could not have been used even for agricultural purposes) ***Bring Him to me. If anyone asks you where you’re going, you tell them, ‘The Lord has need of him…’”*** They went, and did just what He said. And just what He told them would happen, happened. They were questioned.

When you are doing the will of God, you can expect people to question your motivation. When you are listening to the Lord, you can expect people to question your position. They’ll question your actions. They’ll question your purposes. They’ll question your motivation.

If you think the world won’t question you when you are doing His will, you have another thing coming. But what the Lord had told them came to pass. How many of you know that God will prepare you, for what He sends you to do? God’s not going to take this church anywhere that it’s not prepared to go. Beloved, hear me well, God won’t send you into any situation you aren’t prepared to go into. He always prepares us for what we’ll face. And He’ll give you the reasoning you need to get it done. “The Lord has need of him…”

The Lord has need of this thing. Brand new… never ridden… that’s talking about FRESH PATHS… NEW IDEAS… UNTAPPED RESOURCES.

There are going to be some NEW COLTS employed in the service of the Lord, and in that process of glorifying Him. That colt was to BEAR UP the Lord. How many of you know that God would have us BEAR UP THE LORD, to GLORIFY HIM. We’re to BEAR UP the Lord to CARRY HIM; to carry His message. We’re to LIFT HIM UP, so that He can draw all men unto Him.

God’s going to have us LOOSING SOME COLTS for the Kingdom.

Untying some potential for the Kingdom of God.

Loosing some COLTS for the Kingdom of God.

Loosing some new ideas for GLORIFYING HIM.

Loosing some new means of LIFTING HIM UP.

Loosing some new means of BEARING THE GOSPEL.

LOOSING COLTS.

LOOSING THE MEANS.

LOOSING THE TRANSPORTATION.

I am going to present a controversial idea to you today.

I’ve shared a similar line of thought with you before, but I do so again so that we may get this into our spirits.

The Gospel is ALIVE.

The Gospel WORKS.

But the Gospel is HANDICAPPED.

It can’t walk. The Gospel can’t walk on it’s own.

The Gospel needs COLT LEGS to CARRY IT. The Gospel needs a COLT BACK to ride upon. The Gospel can’t talk. It needs a COLT VOICE so that it can be heard. The Gospel is DEAF, and DUMB… and MUTE without a COLT, friend.

There are colts that can be utilized to carry Him to the world today. But YOU AND IT have to untie them in our lives, in our church, in our towns and cities.

You and I have to loose them.

We have to LOOSE THE COLTS in this church to carry this GOSPEL MESSAGE.

We have to LOOSE THE COLTS to see people of all ages come into the Kingdom.

We have to LOOSE THE COLTS financially to do this work.

But are we willing to face the heat?

Are we willing to DO SOMETHING UNUSUAL when He says to do it?

Do things that might not suit us, but that WILL suit our Jesus?

Are we willing to stand up to the questioning and the grilling while we are in the PROCESS?

The questions about our deeds, the questions about our motives.

Are we willing to LOOSE COLTS today?

UNTIE every available means to bear the Lord to a lost and dying generation.

I personally believe that this morning, we’re in a position to see COLTS LOOSED in our church, our town, our individual lives, and our community.

But it all bears on two key points – are we willing to take on ANY TASK from the Lord, no matter how unusual, to glorify Him and build this His church?

And, are we willing untie the means that He directs us to?

Will we UNTIE COLTS that will help us BEAR THE LIVING WORD OF GOD to this GENERATION?

Will we UNTIE A COLT to CARRY THE GOSPEL?

Will we UNTIE A COLT to GLORIFY THE LORD?

Will we LOOSE COLTS to see victory in our world?

The disciples had to go out looking for a colt…

Beloved, you and I will have to open our eyes, and LOOK for the COLTS.

Look for those means to bear the Gospel.

Look for ways to see Him Glorified.

Look for ways to BEAR HIM UP.

Look for ways to SHARE THIS GOSPEL.

Look for ways to give the Gospel legs.

Look for ways to UNTIE the COLT.

There are ways to get this message out.

UNTIE the COLT.

UNTIE the COLT that GOD may be glorified.

Share the ideas we have….

If we’re not in this together to do the work of the church and not to satisfy our own longings or words we have had in the past that have not come about because we have missed them either through disobedience or not properly testing them, then we might as well pack up and go and join another church and not do anything there as well.

The church is full of ship jumpers, people who jump around churches because they don’t like what the preacher said to them because it CONVICTED them.

God told me about this Scripture while I was awake plotting how I might fit the harmonies into the song You Raise Me Up for the choir. He told me to loose some of the things I hadn’t used and give them to Him as He had need of them, so that He could perfect them and use them for His glory. Are you going to do the same?

Illustration. The young preacher thrilled his congregation with his first sermon. But the next Sunday he preached the same message. And the third Sunday he preached it again. Finally, one of the deacons was getting concerned. He went to the young minister and asked, "That’s a great sermon you’ve been preaching, but don’t you have another sermon you could preach?"

The young preacher replied, "I’ve got quite a few sermons, and as soon as you do something with the one I’ve been preaching I’ll preach a new one!"

FOR HIS GLORY not ours.

Amen