

Sermon Notes

June 21 & 22, 2014

Dr. Darryl DelHousaye



Agape: Primacy of Faith | Matthew 5:43-48

Introductory Thoughts

If we were going to reduce the Christian faith down to one question, what would that question be for you? Would it be this one: *Is it all real?*

I. You have heard (v. 43)

The scribes would take the laws of God and twist them to say what they wanted them to say. *"You have heard it said...."* They would leave a *little out* and put a *little in*.

II. But I say to you (vv. 44-48)

If there has been a supernatural change in me, where would I see it?

We love so that it might be seen we are *"sons (and daughters) of the Father."* What is this *"sun and rain"* falling upon everyone? Theologians call this *"common grace."* It is evidence of God's love even for *His enemies*.

This word *"perfect"* (*teleos*) was used to describe one who has become full grown, a student who has matured. It describes something when it has reached its end, what it was designed to do. We were designed to love.

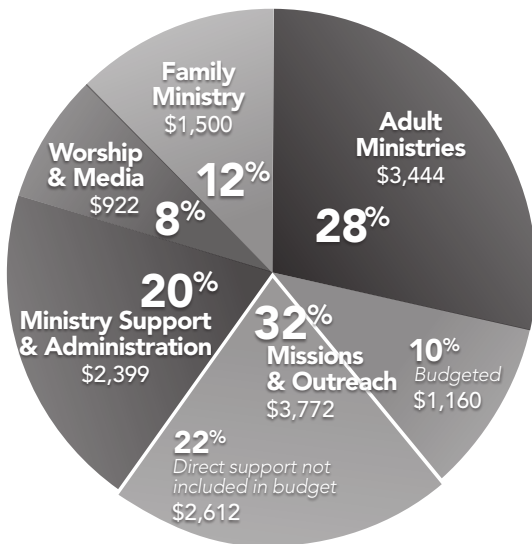
Concluding Thoughts

Victor Frankl, a neurologist and psychiatrist was captured in World War II and put in the German concentration camp of **Auschwitz** and later transferred to **Dachau**. He wrote this in **Man's Search for Meaning**: *"A thought transfixed me: for the first time in my life I saw truth as it is set in song by so many poets, proclaimed as the final wisdom by so many thinkers. The truth—that love is the ultimate and the highest goal to which man can aspire. Then I grasped the meaning of the greatest secret that human poetry and human thought and belief have to impart: the salvation of man is through love and in love."*

⁴³ "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' ⁴⁴ But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, ⁴⁵ so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. ⁴⁶ For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? ⁴⁷ And if you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? ⁴⁸ You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

- Matthew 5:43-48^{ESV}

FY2014–15 Proposed Budget: \$9.425 Million



This graph represents \$12.04 million, which includes the \$9.425 proposed budget and \$2.6 in direct support giving.

On June 21 and 22, members of Scottsdale Bible Church will be asked to affirm the proposed budget of \$9.425 million for the fiscal year starting July 1, 2014. This budget reflects the continued expansion of our ministry and a 1.9% increase over this year's estimated actual giving of \$9.25 million. Our Elder Board has unanimously affirmed the proposed budget.

God has richly blessed our church this year with combined giving to the general fund and Compelled by Grace totaling more than \$18 million. You are a generous church with a capacity to give, a propensity to meet needs, and a passion to expand God's kingdom. Your faithful giving reflects a commitment to **win** people to faith in Jesus, **build** people as disciples, and **send** them to win and build others in their spheres of influence.

This has truly been a significant year in the life of Scottsdale Bible. By faith, we are realizing the plans God has laid before us to expand our impact and reach those who are disconnected from Him, both here in Scottsdale and around the world. **We are...**

Leaving a legacy	Reaching our community	Impacting the world
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new chapel, student center, and special ministries building were constructed, creating new opportunities for students and adults to meet Jesus and grow in their faith. • 1000 kids attended VBX and 70 made first-time professions of faith. • 800 students attended camp and 120 made first-time decisions for Christ. • 9000 people attended Winter Wonder and experienced the true meaning of Christmas. • 109 people professed their faith through baptism. • 2500 adults experienced life change through small groups. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We built a new partnership with Yavapai Elementary and provided a computer lab, Christmas gifts, books, and a spring carnival for the children and teachers. • Through Elder Fund giving, 300 families were helped with essential living expenses. • 25,000 meals to St. Mary's Food Bank, 600 pairs of shoes, 700 Christmas gifts to inner-city children, 330 turkeys, and three semi truckloads of donations were given to help people in need. • 1000 Burmese refugees were offered housing, food, teaching, and support. • Hundreds joined with our 19 ministry partners to serve the homeless, single moms, prisoners and children. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 23 teams with 375 people shared the Gospel in 13 countries. • 52 missionaries impacted 21 countries through your support. • 900 Tanzanian children received schooling, food, and healthcare at our two schools. • 40 volunteers served at the European Leadership Forum. • Strategic partnerships were developed in Western Europe and the Middle East in academia, leadership, ministry and the local church. • Your direct support giving for missions combined with our missions operating budget totaled \$3.8 million, meaning 32% of this year's contributions went to missions and outreach.