

St. John's EBCs, Everyday Bible Conversations!

EBC 3, 2, 1! – On Location in 2024! Leading to Worship Sunday, November 17, 2024

Reading: Mark 13:1-8

EBC focuses on bringing the Bible into our Everyday Lives, emphasizing God's Everyday presence by finding connections in our physical world! EBC also has a video component on the St. John's website and St. John's You Tube channel. This week, we consider the grandeur of earthly things, and how God is even bigger! Click here: <https://youtu.be/1eXPwtpnZ3E> Welcome to this week's EBC 3,2,1! Three points, two questions, and one action step!

Three Points

- Mark 13 begins as Jesus and the disciples come out of the Temple, and one of his disciples says, "Look, Teacher, what large stones and what large buildings!" (Mark 13:1)
- Jesus responds rather surprisingly: "Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down." (Mark 13:2)
- Later, when some of the disciples ask Jesus for the signs that these things would happen, Jesus does not really answer. Instead, he warns to beware of others coming in Jesus' name, and that the disciples should not be alarmed when there are wars and rumors of wars. Wars, earthquakes and famines are "but the beginning of the birth pangs." (Mark 13:7-8)

Two Questions

- What do you think of Jesus' response to the disciple? It seems the disciple is only wowed by the grandiosity of the Temple. Why is Jesus so instantly emphatic that the Temple would be thrown down? What earthly things do we hold in awe and esteem that should really pale before the God's love and power?
- Are you perplexed by the charge not to be alarmed by war, or to take famine and earthquakes in stride? If we believe that we are not actually meant to take a blasé attitude toward injustice and suffering, what does Jesus actually mean here?

Action Step

- Take some time this week to notice the grandeur of God. His creation is awesome, and his love endures forever!

Don't like these questions? Do these verses say something different to you? Great! What it is?

And as always, you are encouraged to find a friend (or two or many) and take an EBC coffee break! Find 15-25 minutes somewhere in the week and share your faith. Have fun finding God this week in your Everyday Life!