



“CONSCIOUS AND INTENTIONAL MINISTRY: DOING WHO I AM”

Also I heard the voice of the Lord saying: “Whom shall I send, And who will go for Us?” Then I said, “Here am I! Send me.” Isaiah 6:8

MARCH 6, 2022

PASTOR MARTIN CHILDS, JR.

TEXT: JOHN 1:40-42

TITLE: HAS GOD CHANGED YOUR NAME?

INTRODUCTION

- A. Everyone has a name (Traditional / Unique / “I don’t know what your mom was thinking...”) _____
- B. African and Biblical ancestors’ view of names _____
- C. Why would God change your name? _____
- D. When God changes your name, it does not diminish nor negate your original name. Rather, it augments your original name _____
- E. It may not be a literal name. Rather, a spiritual sense that God is doing something different in you and with you that sets your life on a different course _____

SIMON

- A. The name, Simon, means He has heard / To listen _____
- B. What was the challenge or problem with the name Simon? Nothing _____
- C. Then why did God change Peter’s name from Simon? Hearing and listening is only half of God’s expectation _____
 1. **Matthew 7:21**, ²¹ *Not everyone who says to Me, “Lord, Lord,” shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven*
 2. **James 1:22**, ²² *But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.*
 3. **Hebrews 4:2**, ² *For indeed the good news came to us just as to them; but the message they heard did not benefit them, because they were not united by faith with those who listened. (NRSV)*
 4. **Romans 2:13**, ¹³ *For it is not the hearers of the law who are righteous in God’s sight, but the doers of the law who will be justified. (NRSV)*
- D. Peter did a good job of hearing, yet failed in the doing _____
 1. **Matthew 14:22-36** – Peter lost faith and began sinking while walking on water
 2. **Matthew 16:21-23** – Peter took Jesus aside and rebuked Him
 3. **John 18:15-27** – Peter denied Jesus three times
- E. Lest we be too hard on Peter... _____

PETER

- A. The name, Peter (Cephas), means Rock / Stone _____
- B. Jesus reinforced and reaffirmed Peter’s name change in **Matthew 16:18, 19** _____

¹⁸ *And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. ¹⁹ And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.”*
- C. After the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, Peter lived out both names name _____
- D. Peter had significant firsts: _____
 1. Peter preached the first sermon on the Day of Pentecost
 2. Peter was the first to witness to and preach Jesus to the Gentiles
 3. Peter was the first leader of the church
- E. How will you live out both of your names through the indwelling Holy Spirit? _____