

It's the End of the World as We Know It...And I Feel Fine
"Part One – A World Changing Conviction"

Series Summary

It's the end of the world as we know it. The world is changing all around us. There is an increase in corruption, hatred, racism, war, death, and disease. Is all hopeless or is there hope to be found? One birth, one life, one death marks a transformational change to our world. Find the Hope you are looking for as we discover more about where our confidence, strength, and security comes from. A four week series that leads to Easter Sunday: A World Changing Conviction, A World Changing Forgiveness, A World Changing Sacrifice, & A World Changing Victory.

Big Idea

The Big Idea of this sermon is: ***Just Do It***. We will discuss the question as to what drove Jesus to give His life for hell deserving sinners. Jesus was driven and convicted to accomplish the mission that God had set for Him. Why and what does that mean to us today? Can we experience a similar drive in our own lives? Can we live with a Conviction that will change the world? The answer is Yes and God is calling out to us from the calm in the midst of the storm: Just Do It! Do not hold back any longer, live with conviction and change the world.

Four Reasons Why One Man's Conviction Changed the World

Reason #1 – He Was Convicted to Testify to the Truth

- **John 18:37** – ³⁷“You are a king, then!” said Pilate. Jesus answered, “You are right in saying I am a king. In fact, for this reason I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me.”
- **Key Point** – Jesus Christ came to this earth to deliver the most important message the world would ever be exposed to. He delivered this message by the testimony of His life from the words that He uttered to the example that He lived to death that He died and then conquered for eternity. Jesus was Convicted to testify about God's saving truth so that some day you could choose to be tethered to the truth. (*Image = Crown of Thorns*)

Reason #2 – He Was Convicted to Shepherd the Sheep

- **John 10:14-15** – ¹⁴“I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me— ¹⁵just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep.
- **Key Point** – The average Christian in modern day American has lost the concept of the role of a shepherd. Jesus Christ declares boldly that He was convicted to shepherd His sheep. Why? The sheep are broken, hurting, filled with sorrow, and aguish and they are in need of guidance, direction, a comforting and caring touch, and sometimes the sheep are in need of the healing touch. He was convicted to shepherd His sheep so that the sheep would be driven to care for others in the same way. (*Image = Homeless or Hurting People or Prison*)

Reason #3 – He Was Convicted to Achieve God's Will

- **Mark 14:32-36** – ³²They went to a place called Gethsemane, and Jesus said to his disciples, “Sit here while I pray.” ³³He took Peter, James and John along with him, and he began to be deeply distressed and troubled. ³⁴“My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death,” he said to them. “Stay here and keep watch.” ³⁵Going a little farther, he fell to the ground and prayed that if possible the hour might pass from him. ³⁶“Abba, Father,” he said, “everything is possible for you. Take this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will.”
- **Key Point** – One of the greatest conflicts that any follower of Christ has to endure throughout their life is the choice to follow God's will or to follow the human will. Jesus

Christ faced this same decision as He cries out to the Father from the Garden. His conviction was simple: One way, One Choice, One Will alone to follow and achieve. Jesus was convicted to achieve God's will so that you inspired to follow God's will for your own life even in the midst of facing times of uncertainty or hardships. (*Image = Jesus in the Garden*)

Reason #4 – He was Convicted to Take Away Sin of the World

- **Hebrews 9:27-28** – ²⁷ Just as man is destined to die once, and after that to face judgment, ²⁸ so Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many people; and he will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him.
- **1 Peter 3:18** – For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive by the Spirit.
- **1 Peter 2:24** – He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed.
- **Key Point** – The ultimate price was paid by Jesus Christ so that the world would be given a hope that they did not have before: one man's life was given to pay the penalty that no one else could pay. How does His conviction for the lost drive you today? How do you see your lost neighbor? Do you grieve and weep for them and their soul? (*Image = The Cross*)

Questions to Consider

- *How has the Cause of Christ changed your life?*
- *How has it moved you to change the lives of others?*

Memory Verse

1 Peter 3:18 – For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive by the Spirit.

BIG Challenge

Choose one way that you will live out the Cause of Christ with Great Conviction this week. Maybe you can choose one or more people to share the love of Christ with throughout March. Encourage them, support them, pray for them, and invite them to church or a small group. *Give us your testimony about this.*

CICERO CHRISTIAN CHURCH
1715 Stringtown Pike / Cicero, Indiana 46034 / 317.984.4653
reachteachserve.org

