

Numbered With The Transgressors

(4 18 10)

Intro

- **Why would people (like Julie) be willing to stand up for Christ?**
 - **Willing to be persecuted & shot at**
 - **Almost unheard of in US**

Why?

- **I believe the key is found in Luke 22:37, when Jesus said: “It is written: 'And he was numbered with the transgressors'; and I tell you that this must be fulfilled in me.”**
- **What does this mean 'numbered with transgressors'?**
- **What does this look like (e.g. story of 2 brothers)?**

Many Examples in Bible

- **Moses up in the mountain, Israelites built a golden calf**
- **Exodus 32:31-32**
- **So Moses went back to the Lord and said, “Oh, what a great sin these people have committed! They have made themselves gods of gold. But now, please forgive their sin – but if not, then blot me out of the book you have written.”**
- **Wait! Did Moses do anything wrong?**
- **Why would Moses do such a thing?**
 - **He did not want the job @ burning bush**
 - **When he performed miracle for Pharaoh, things got worse**
 - **Israelites refused to listen due to brutality of slavery. “How can I expect Pharaoh to listen. I'm such a clumsy speaker.”****(Ex 6:9-12)**

Moses

There was a time that it got so bad (i.e. Quail), that Moses wanted to give it all up.

Num 11:11-15 – Moses asked the Lord, “Why have you brought this trouble on your servant? What have I done to displease you that you put the burden of all these people on me? Did I conceive all these people? Did I give them birth? Why do you tell me to carry them in my arms, as a nurse carries an infant to the land you promised on oath to their forefathers? Where can I get meat for all these people?....I can not carry all these people by myself; the burden is too heavy for me. If this is how you are going to treat me, put me to death right now..

What would cause Moses to go from wanting to give up to being willing to surrender his life for the sin of people?

What I believed happened

What I believed happened with Moses

- **Moses grew in love**
 - **Initially he knew he had a calling (& love: willing to risk)**
 - **Tried on his own strength but that didn't work**
 - **Ran away & became complacent with life as a shepherd**
 - **Called by God, yet wanted to give up (many times)**
 - **But he learned to rely on God**
 - **He grew in love, so much so that he was willing to lay down his life for them**
- **Parents can understand**
 - **Baby to toddler to teens... challenges yet we grow in love**
 - **So much so, that when they hurt, we want to take their pain (even willing to lay down our lives for them)**
- **All about love - John 15:13**

Back to Jesus

- **Same with Paul (Rom 9:1-3)**
 - **Started killing people of the Way**
 - **Paul was willing to be cut off from Christ so that Israelites be saved**
- **Back to Jesus (Isaiah 53:12)**
- **He was numbered with the transgressors. For He bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.**
 - **Willing to be counted as one of the transgressors (rebels)**
 - **He was always among sinners & winebibbers**
 - **Interceded for us (on the cross)**
- **Laid down his reputation, his time, his throne, and even his life (Rom 5:8)**

Like Moses

- **Some of us are like Moses**
 - **Believe that we have a calling for something greater**
 - **Believe that we don't have ability**
 - **We may have tried & failed**
 - **Comfortable with life...**
 - **However, we know that God is tugging at us, but not yet willing to surrender our whole lives for others. Maybe there are issues of life or cares of this world that bogs us down ...**

Like Jesus

- **Reality: if Christ is in us, we can't be comfortable...**
 - **Can't be comfortable just with sitting and watching sheep**
 - **Called us to focus outside of ourselves**
 - **Called us see & love a hurting world**
 - **1Pet 2:21 – For God called you to do good, even if it means suffering, just as Christ suffered for you. He is your example, and you must follow in his steps.**
 - **As He was 'numbered with the transgressors', He's called us to identify with & intercede for them ..**
 - **What a privilege!**

Edification Time

- Pray for a heart of love & burden for the hurting people.
- Who has God placed in your heart to be 'numbered with' and intercede for?
- Pray for them from place of identification.

