

SERMON NOTES
March 28, 2010
“Revitalizing the Home”
Joshua 24:14-15

OUR CORE VALUES

Belief – Practice – Virtue

Our virtues are the natural result of practicing what we believe! If we understand [“**belief**”] God is personal (i.e. transcendent & imminent (Psalm 121) then we will worship [“**practice**”] God for who He is which results in joy and peace [“**virtue**”]. (Psalm 95:1-7): When we practice what we believe our lives will manifest *virtue*.

10 Christian Practices

WHAT WE ENDEAVOR TO DO

Throughout its history the Christian faith has regarded a specific collection of spiritual practices, or disciplines, as essential for growth toward Christ-likeness. They do not equal spiritual growth any more than the core beliefs do. They do assist us, however, in getting into the workroom of the Holy Spirit, where he can transform us.

Worship: worshipping God for who he is and what he has done for us (Psalm 95:1-7)

Prayer: praying to God to know him, to lay our requests before him, and to find direction for our daily life (Psalm 66:16-20)

Bible Study: reading the Bible to know God, to hold to the truth, and to find direction for our daily life (Hebrews 4:12)

Single-mindedness: focusing on God and his priorities for our life (Matthew 6:33)

Biblical Community: fellowshiping with other Christians to fulfill God’s purposes in our life, in other’s lives, and in the world (Acts 2:42-47)

Spiritual Gifts: using the gifts God has given us to fulfill God’s purposes (1 Corinthians 12:1-31)

Investing Our Time: giving of our time to fulfill God’s purposes (Colossians 3:17)

Investing Our Money & Possessions: giving of our money and possessions to fulfill God’s purposes (2 Corinthians 8:7)

Investing Our Faith: giving of our faith to fulfill God’s purposes (Ephesians 6:19-20)

Investing Our Life: giving of our life to fulfill God’s purposes (Romans 12:1-2)

I. Putting it in PERSPECTIVE

A. Make up your **MIND**

1. What you have **SEEN**
2. What you have **HEARD**
3. What you have experienced

B. Look at God’s **FAITHFULNESS**

1. Look at His **INVESTMENT** in us.
2. Look at His call to **COMMITMENT**.
3. Look at your **GRATITUDE** and appreciation.
4. Look at your **LOYALTY**.

C. Have a single **FOCUS**

1. Focus on the **FUTURE** generations.
2. Focus on holy **RESOLVE**.
3. Focus on **SERVICE** (What is “worship”?)
*Joshua seems to be saying that serving God is not just a **PART** of what our family does – It is **WHO OUR family IS!**
4. Focus on **ACCOUNTABILITY**.
5. Focus on **MODELING**.
6. Focus on the visible representation.
*Parents set the tone and direction of the home.

II. Steps to revitalizing the home

Step #1 - **HUMILITY**

Step #2 - **PRAY**

Step #3 - **SEEK** God’s face

Step #4 – Repentance

III. Benefits of revitalizing our homes:

1. God **HEARS**
2. God **FORGIVES**
3. God **BLESSES**

CALVARY COTTAGE COMMUNITY

Discussion:

Prayer Requests:

Praises:

Verse to memorize:

HOW TO SURVIVE YOUR PASTOR'S SERMONS:

1. Listen to the sermon as if your life depended on it.
2. Look for God's remedies for sin and His instructions for living in a sinful world.
3. Expect to be taught by the Holy Spirit as you hear God's Word proclaimed.
4. Be determined to listen...regardless of the speaker's oratory skills.
5. A profitable Bible message is one that delivers **one** life-transforming truth.
6. Pre-commit to apply and obey God's Word as it is set forth in the sermon.

APPLICATION:

Application is Hard Work:

1. ...because it requires serious thinking.
2. ...because Satan fights it viciously.
3. ...because we naturally resist change.

Four Steps to Practical Application:

- I. **Pray** for insight on how to apply the passage.
- II. **Meditate** on verses you have chosen to study.
 - a. Put yourself in the biblical scene.
 - b. Emphasize words in the passage you are studying.
 - c. Paraphrase the passage.
 - d. Personalize the passage you are studying.
 - e. Use the S-P-A-C-E-P-E-T-S acrostic. *
- III. **Write** out an application – (Personal, Practical, Possible, Provable)
- IV. **Memorize** a key verse from your study.

Questions to Ask When Studying the Bible:

1. What attitude do I need to change (surrender)?
2. What do I need to start doing? Stop doing?
3. What things do I need to believe? Stop believing?
4. What relationships do I need to work on?
5. What ministry should I be having with others?

*S – Sin to confess?

P – Promise to claim?

A – Attitude to change?

C – Command to obey?

E – Example to follow?

P – Prayer to pray?

E – Error to avoid?

T – Truth to believe?

S – Something to praise God for?