

Sermon study "His Story"

Use this outline as a guide. You can talk about it a different way if you like but whatever you do make sure the depth of this study is depth of APPLICATION. Do not make it your goal to get sidetracked determining the meaning. The goal is to move forward from the message into actual real life and specific application. Be creative and follow up about application. Imagine a church where the people actually applied what they learned. Wow.

The problem this sermon addresses:

Read Mark 6:30-44. Pay attention to the details. Then read Mark 8:1-18. Jesus' response encapsulates the problem believers face in not remembering the past and present faithfulness of the Lord.

Because we forget His past faithfulness and then because we don't realize His present faithfulness we don't take steps of faith.

Discuss.

The Central Proposition of the text:

Remembering His past faithfulness and realizing His present faithfulness requires our present faithfulness.

Our action of faith is directly tied to our confidence in His faithfulness. If we do not constantly reminding ourselves of His faithfulness, past and present, we risk losing the confidence to take another step of faith.

Main Idea:

The only response to the past and present faithfulness of God is one more step of faith

I. Remembering His Past Faithfulness

A. God clearly wants His people to remember His past faithfulness to them. This is to remind them of their strength. It is to remind them of their provision for the future.

1. Read Deuteronomy 8:7-19; 26:1-11; Joshua 4:1-7; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26.
2. How can we be reminded about His faithfulness today? List a few ways.

II. Realizing His Present Faithfulness

B. God is presently faithful and we must remember to thank Him and realize His work among us.

2. Read Luke 17:11-19.

- b) How are we like the nine lepers in the story?
- c) What do we miss out on by our thanklessness?
- d) Can you see God working in your midst?

3. Read Matthew 16:18.

- b) God promised to build His church. You are here church. You are part of His story. I spoke Sunday about our part in this story. How presently God is working to build His church through us. You all are a part of His story.
- c) Share briefly your experience with this church in the last five years.

- d) How did you come to be at this church?
- e) What is one thing you have learned about God?
- f) What is one thing you have learned about yourself?
- g) what is one way you have seen God work?
- h) 5 years from now there might be another anniversary. what do we want to see God do until then?
- i) What is one specific prayer for this church for the next 5 years?
- j) What part would you like to play in making this happen
- k) Please share these things on the Barabbas Road Church Facebook wall as I believe it would encourage the rest of the church.

III. Requires Our Faithfulness

C. Our response to God's past and present faithfulness to us is to believe Him and act with confidence and assurance.

- 3. Read Phil 1:3-6. The "you" here is plural. How does this motivate you to go forward in faith?
- 4. Hebrews 11-12:2. The key is to see Christ and not your circumstances.
- 5. Read Matthew 14:22-33. Notice that Peter did well with his focus on Christ, not his circumstances.
 - c) Notice as well that he got out of the boat. He took a real step of faith because He remembered the past and present faithfulness of Christ.

Implication:

I pray that everywhere you look you see God's faithfulness and that it motivates you to take another step of faith.

He is risen...and His story goes on with us- we are links in the chain of His story.

God has done, and is doing, extraordinary things with ordinary people willing to take the baton and fix their eyes on Christ. He has not changed and He will not change. The baton is in your hand and it is your turn to run.

Main Idea: The only response to the past and present faithfulness of God is one more step of faith

You have the baton. Discuss how you plan to run. What is your dream for this church?

Paraphrasing Jesus from Mark 8:1-18. 'why are you worried? Don't you get it? Are you dumb? Don't your eyes work? Don't your ears work? Don't you remember? What did I do last time? Get it?'

I really pray that this message empowers you and motivates you to take whatever next step of faith you must.

Thank you church for letting me be your pastor.
matt