

February 2019 Newsletter

From Heaven's Heart

Truth 7 You Can Experience God Today

This is our last teaching series from Dr. Henry Blackaby's wonderful and life changing book *Experiencing God*. I want to encourage you to purchase his book by the same title. You will find it to be one of the most powerful assets for living life to the fullest as he teaches us from God's word how we can have and maintain forever, a very personal and intimate love relationship with God. This is the desire of our Heavenly Father. I use this book often as I have found God's power released through His Holy Spirit in the simplest and most meaningful ways and right when I need Him.

Truth 7 Obedience always provides a future blessing!

Dr. Blackaby's home church was still a very small church and trying to staff and support three mission churches. They were asked to sponsor another mission church in Winnipeg, Manitoba, 510 miles away. Someone would have to drive 1,020 miles in order to meet with the people in the mission. This sounded like an impossible task for their little church.

Dr. Blackaby shared with his congregation that a faithful group of people had been meeting for more than two years and wanted to start a church. They had to determine whether this was God's work and whether He was revealing His activity to them. Was this our invitation to join Him in what He was doing? Stop now and ask yourself, what would we do?

Dr. Blackaby's church agreed to sponsor the new mission church. Then they asked God to show them how and to give them strength and resources to do it. Please stop again. They did not look inward to determine how. They looked upward for God to provide for direction and all they needed.

A number of times, Dr. Blackaby drove the 1,020 miles to preach and minister to the people. And very soon, God provided a pastor and the resources for this new mission church. This original church became the mother church to many other mission churches and started an entire association of churches. Blessings always follow obedience.

When Dr. Blackaby's oldest son, Richard finished seminary, this new church in Winnipeg called him to be its pastor. A year later, the church called his second son, Tom, to be the associate pastor. Little did they know that this one act of obedience, which at first appeared impossible, held such potential for future blessings for the Blackaby family and many new church starts. WOW!

I can sometimes get in too big of a hurry. Growing grass is easy and fast. Growing a giant oak tree with a strong root system requires a great deal of time. Which one do you desire to become? God is concerned about your life through eternity. Eternity is a very long time. It doesn't end. Allow Him to take all the time He wants to shape you for His purposes. Larger assignments require longer periods of preparation.

Let God orient you to Himself. The servant does not tell the Master what kind of task he wants. The servant waits on his Master for the assignment. Be patient. Waiting on the Lord should not be idle time. Let God use waiting times to mold and shape your character. Let God use these times to purify your life and make you a clean vessel for His service.

As you obey Him, God will prepare you for the assignment that is suitable for you. Any task, however, that comes from the Maker of the universe is important. Don't use human standards to measure the importance or value of the task God gives. If He gives it, nothing is more important.

But how do we know it is God? Often people say, "I don't think that was God's will."

God calls you into a relationship with Himself. Be careful how you interpret circumstances. Many times we jump to a conclusion too quickly. God is moving us in one direction to tell us what He is about to do. We immediately jump to our own conclusion about what He is doing because our because it sounds logical. We start following logic of our own thinking, and then nothing seems to work out. We tend to ignore our relationship with God and take matters into our own hands. Don't do that!

Most of the time when God calls you or gives you a direction, He is not calling you to do something for Him. He is telling you what He is about to do where you are. Stop and think about this most important lesson for knowing the will of God.

Let's stop here and I'll conclude in March our teaching on The 7 Truths from Dr. Blackaby's Experiencing God.

My prayer for you is that God will become more real to you as your love relationship with Him grows closer everyday of your life...for eternity,

Pastor Steve