

Wednesday Word April 17, 2024

Isaiah 55:10-11: *“For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes forth from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.”*

If I was to say the word “Covid-19” it will no doubt bring up many different thoughts, emotions, and irritations in our memory. While I am sure that is very true, this brings a very fond memory to my heart and mind. In early 2020 I was a youth pastor down in Orting and was going through church-planting training. Then everything changed-the world changed; the nation changed; the economy changed; the political landscape changed; even the language changed. But God’s Word did not change.

During those first few weeks we were supposed to stay at home unless we had to leave (guess how well I followed that “rule”) and, as a pastor, I had to do most of my ministry via the internet. At the time, Naomi and I had a cedar sauna in our bedroom, and we used it for relaxation and good sweats. But due to our interesting circumstances in ministry, we used it for a studio. It was just a fun way of creating a silly backdrop to our ministry videos. Each night we would go live to the families in our church. I would tell a bedtime story and Naomi would sing a lullaby. We did this each night for quite some time. We would take turns sitting in the little sauna with our phone broadcasting live via Instagram. This lasted about 30 minutes and we had fun interacting with students, and parents, online. I told ridiculous stories made up on the spot about a different animal character and the adventures they would have. Naomi would sing a beautiful worship song to remind everyone of the ever-present Spirit of God in their lives. While this was not ideal, it was a way to keep people encouraged and in good spirits in very uncertain times.

I think back at those times and, even though the production of those ministry opportunities were stressful and sometimes irritating, I am so glad Naomi and I put the energy into reminding people that God was who He said he was even when the world was going crazy.

I share this memory with you all to remind you that you too have a story to tell in a way only you can tell it. Your life is an intricate work of God, and your experiences are specific to you. The testimony of Your life with Jesus cannot be refuted. It is your story to tell and, when you trust the Lord, it will be told in the right way. The Word of God will never be spoken without purpose or direction even when we are weak in our delivery. The testimony of God is so much more powerful than our human brokenness. We must tell the story!

The challenge for you this week is to prayerfully consider: “What is God’s Story through my life?” When you realize all that God has brought you through and all that He has done through you, how can we not tell it?

Remember that the Spirit of the one who raised Christ from the dead lives in you. With that great power comes a boldness and determination to share with those in your circle of influence all that God has done.

We must tell His story!

I love you and God loves you!

Pastor Eric