

Message Notes – October 16, 2022

here and give thanks for God’s constant presence in our lives!

*The Joshua Imperative**

Thursday, October 20

Read Romans 8:31-39. In Paul’s letter to the Romans, we read of our God who gave us his Son as a sacrifice. The third principle in giving is our giving should be sacrificial. Sacrificial giving doesn’t mean that we must give our all as Christ did. In fact, you could make the argument that Christ gave his all so we don’t have to. However, recognizing that Christ gave his all to us should cause us to consider our response.

How is our giving sacrificial? Does it have a significant impact on our budget? Do you have to plan your giving in order to make it a priority? Have you had to give up some things in order to support the ministry of Jesus Christ through our church? Write your thoughts here and give thanks to the one who gave his all for us.

Friday, October 21

Read Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25 and Psalm 78:1-7. Once again review these scriptures as a means of recognizing the impact of God’s grace and mercy in our lives and what our response is to that grace and mercy. Is our giving regular and sacrificial? Does it reflect the nature and depth of your relationship with God? What changes will you consider in your giving toward Christ’s ministry in our church? What impact will those changes have on your life and the lives of others? Write your thoughts here and give thanks to our God who loves us and empowers us toward a generosity that reflects all that God had given us!

- I. About three thousand years or so ago, _____ asked his people to vote. “Choose this day,” he said.
 - A. Any day of the year we select would have _____ events happening.
 - B. The point of my sharing some thoughts about history – is that history is made as a result of our _____.
 - C. _____ has a way of confronting us and that’s precisely what Joshua does.
 - D. Joshua said, “Choose this day whom you will _____” (24:15).

- II. The legacy passed on to Joshua was profound. God had always led _____ to lead. Now he would do the same for Joshua.
 - A. For his part, Joshua needed to forsake _____ and embrace _____.
 - B. He was told to internalize the word of God, to meditate on it, and to _____ it.
 - C. As we read Joshua 24, everything I’ve shared with you is history. It’s in the _____.
 - D. Now Joshua is about to die himself. What we have here in Joshua 24 is Joshua’s _____ speech.
 - E. Israel’s now called to live out the Yahweh-Moses-Joshua legacy: “_____ this day whom you will serve . . . but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord” (v. 15).
 - F. This last verse is important for understanding the idea of _____ in the Old Testament and for applying this passage to our lives today.

- III. This idea of a Legacy is for our benefit — looking

*Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25 and Psalm 78:1-7

backward is always _____; looking forward is always _____.

- A. Scripture tells us of both the curses and blessings that are passed on from one _____ to the next.
- B. What I want you to know and take away from this message is . . . God is with _____!

IV. Three principles for giving toward _____.

- A. First, how you decide to support the ministry of our local church is a decision between you and _____.

- B. Second, our giving should be _____. That is, it should be a discipline. Dare I say that our giving toward God's ministry in our church should be a spiritual discipline?

- C. Third – and this is perhaps the toughest principle to embrace – our giving should be _____.

- D. No matter what happens on November 8, the _____ will still be here and it will need your support through prayers and presence and yes, your _____.

Daily Meditations and Study Guide

The following is a daily meditation and study guide meant to enhance your understanding of the message and grow as a Christian.

It is offered for your personal reflection or to share with others.

Monday, October 17

Read Joshua 24:1-25. No matter what, according to our scripture,

we must make a decision whom we will follow. For Joshua and his household, they will follow the Lord. Think about the choices you make, both the big ones that have a large impact on your life as well as the day to day decisions you must make. How do your decisions reflect whom you are following? What – or who – is your guiding principle? Meditate how your decisions are affected by your faith and ask God to guide you just as God guided Moses and Joshua and others who are a part of our faith history.

Tuesday, October 18

Read Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25 and Psalm 78:1-7. There were three principles offered during the message that should impact our giving toward Christ's ministry. We will take a look at these principles these next three days. The first principle is how you decide to support the ministry of our local church is a decision between you and God. It should reflect both the nature and the depth of your relationship with God. As God has been generous to you, how is that generosity lived out in your life? How does your giving reflect all that God has given you? Write your thoughts here as you give thanks for all that God has given you.

Wednesday, October 19

Read Psalm 78:1-7. Let the words of this Psalm be a reminder of God's constant presence in our lives. You may have other scriptures that remind you of God presence in your life. What are those passages? Just as God's presence is constant in our lives, our giving should be a constant reminder of our commitment to the ministry of the church. The second principle of giving is our giving should be regular. How is your giving a discipline? Whether you give weekly or monthly, how are you reminded of your generosity toward Christ's ministry? Write your thoughts