

*Famous Last Words*

Joshua 23

March 6, 2016

1. Pastor Tom mentioned that Joshua, a man over 100 years old, was still concerned about others and God's kingdom instead of being concerned about himself. How does Paul echo this idea in 2 Cor. 2:4-5? How does Jesus ultimately model this?
2. As a part of Joshua's "last words," Joshua encourages the people of Israel to place their confidence in the Lord because He is faithful. Read Psalm 36:5 and 2 Timothy 2:13. How is God's faithfulness a benefit for the follower of Christ?
3. The second instruction from Joshua is that Israel is to obey the Lord completely. How does obedience to God give us a chance to exercise our faith? Reading James 2:26 may help you think about this.
4. Pastor Tom explained that when we fail to give daily attention to God's Word, it becomes easier to view God's commands as mere suggestions. Why do you suppose this is the case? It may be helpful to think about our benediction from Joshua 1:8-9.
5. The third directive from Joshua demands very specific obedience to the Lord (v. 7). We may not sacrifice to idols today as they did in ancient times, but how has idolatry tried to creep into our lives?
6. The final directive given by Joshua is that Israel is to count the cost of following the Lord (vs. 15-16). They needed to realize that there are consequences to their choices and their actions. How does the law of sowing and reaping apply here and what is our promise if we persist in doing good? (See Galatians 6:7-9).
7. As you close your time in prayer, here are some final thoughts to think about from the sermon:
  - a. Are you taking a casual approach to God's commands?
  - b. Are you being disobedient?
  - c. Are you justifying your disobedience?
  - d. Have you forgotten the greatness of God and started to take Him for granted?

Ask the Holy Spirit to search your heart and allow Him to renew your passion for Christ.