

BE STILL
FAIRVIEW TEXAS CHURCH OF GOD
February 10, 2008

Last week, we studied the Hymn “Have Thine Own Way, Lord” and how it relates to the Biblical direction. We noted that God’s plan will prevail; our participation in His plan is up to us.

We are to:

- **Be prepared! Be productive! Serve others!**
- **And always remember who is really in control!**

But, how do we do that?

Psalm 46:

- 1 God is our refuge and strength, A very present help in trouble.
- 2 Therefore we will not fear, Even though the earth be removed, And though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea;
- 3 Though its waters roar and be troubled, Though the mountains shake with its swelling. Selah
- 4 There is a river whose streams shall make glad the city of God, The holy place of the tabernacle of the Most High.
- 5 God is in the midst of her, she shall not be moved; God shall help her, just at the break of dawn.
- 6 The nations raged, the kingdoms were moved; He uttered His voice, the earth melted.
- 7 The LORD of hosts is with us; The God of Jacob is our refuge.
- 8 Come, behold the works of the LORD, Who has made desolations in the earth.
- 9 He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; He breaks the bow and cuts the spear in two; He burns the chariot in the fire.
- 10 **Be still, and know that I am God;** I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!
- 11 The LORD of hosts is with us; The God of Jacob is our refuge.

Many times in our lives, we forget to “be still”. We are too busy pushing a string. We try too hard to make things happen – the way we want it to happen and in the timeframe we want.

Acts 16:

- 6 Now when they had gone through Phrygia and the region of Galatia, they were forbidden by the Holy Spirit to preach the word in Asia.

Sometimes, God’s Spirit will prevent us from doing what we think we should be doing.

Acts 20:

- 22 "And see, now I go bound in the spirit to Jerusalem, not knowing the things that will happen to me there,

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And, sometimes, God's Spirit will lead us to do something even though we don't know why or what lies in store for us.

Matthew 6:

- 25 "Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing?"
- 26 "Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?"
- 27 "Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature?"
- 28 "So why do you worry about clothing? **Consider the lilies of the field**, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin;
- 29 "and yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.
- 30 "Now if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?"
- 31 "Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?'"
- 32 "For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things.
- 33 "But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.
- 34 "Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.

“Don't Worry – Be Happy”

Isaiah 55:

- 1 "Ho! Everyone who thirsts, Come to the waters; And you who have no money, Come, buy and eat. Yes, come, buy wine and milk Without money and without price.
- 2 Why do you spend money for what is not bread, And your wages for what does not satisfy? Listen carefully to Me, and eat what is good, And let your soul delight itself in abundance.
- 3 Incline your ear, and come to Me. Hear, and your soul shall live; And I will make an everlasting covenant with you-The sure mercies of David.
- 4 Indeed I have given him as a witness to the people, A leader and commander for the people.
- 5 Surely you shall call a nation you do not know, And nations who do not know you shall run to you, Because of the LORD your God, And the Holy One of Israel; For He has glorified you."
- 6 Seek the LORD while He may be found, Call upon Him while He is near.

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- 7 Let the wicked forsake his way, And the unrighteous man his thoughts; Let him return to the LORD, And He will have mercy on him; And to our God, For He will abundantly pardon.
- 8 "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways," says the LORD.
- 9 "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts.
- 10 "For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, And do not return there, But water the earth, And make it bring forth and bud, That it may give seed to the sower And bread to the eater,
- 11 So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me void, But it shall accomplish what I please, And it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.
- 12 "For you shall go out with joy, And be led out with peace; The mountains and the hills Shall break forth into singing before you, And all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.
- 13 Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress tree, And instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle tree; And it shall be to the LORD for a name, For an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off."

Romans 12:

- 1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.
- 2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.
- 3 For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith.
- 4 For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function,
- 5 so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another.
- 6 Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith;
- 7 or ministry, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching;
- 8 he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.
- 9 Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good.
- 10 Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another;
- 11 not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord;

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- 12 rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer;
- 13 distributing to the needs of the saints, given to hospitality.
- 14 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse.
- 15 Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep.
- 16 Be of the same mind toward one another. Do not set your mind on high things, but associate with the humble. Do not be wise in your own opinion.
- 17 Repay no one evil for evil. Have regard for good things in the sight of all men.
- 18 If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men.
- 19 Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay," says the Lord.
- 20 Therefore "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; If he is thirsty, give him a drink; For in so doing you will heap coals of fire on his head."
- 21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

1 Corinthians 12:

- 1 Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I do not want you to be ignorant:
- 2 You know that you were Gentiles, carried away to these dumb idols, however you were led.
- 3 Therefore I make known to you that no one speaking by the Spirit of God calls Jesus accursed, and no one can say that Jesus is Lord except by the Holy Spirit.
- 4 There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit.
- 5 There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord.
- 6 And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all.
- 7 **But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all:**
- 8 for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit,
- 9 to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit,
- 10 to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another different kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues.
- 11 But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.
- 12 For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ.
- 13 For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body--whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free--and have all been made to drink into one Spirit.
- 14 For in fact the body is not one member but many.
- 15 If the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I am not of the body," is it therefore not of the body?
- 16 And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I am not of the body," is it therefore not of the body?

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- 17 If the whole body were an eye, where would be the hearing? If the whole were hearing, where would be the smelling?
- 18 But now God has set the members, each one of them, in the body just as He pleased.
- 19 And if they were all one member, where would the body be?
- 20 But now indeed there are many members, yet one body.
- 21 And the eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you"; nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you."
- 22 No, much rather, those members of the body which seem to be weaker are necessary.
- 23 And those members of the body which we think to be less honorable, on these we bestow greater honor; and our unpresentable parts have greater modesty,
- 24 but our presentable parts have no need. But God composed the body, having given greater honor to that part which lacks it,
- 25 that there should be no schism in the body, but that the members should have the same care for one another.
- 26 And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; or if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it.
- 27 Now you are the body of Christ, and members individually.
- 28 And God has appointed these in the church: first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, varieties of tongues.
- 29 Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Are all workers of miracles?
- 30 Do all have gifts of healings? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret?
- 31 But earnestly desire the best gifts. And yet I show you a more excellent way.

God's way is one of unity and diversity

- Motivational Gifts = serving; administration
- Ministry Gifts = Apostles, Prophets, Teachers
- Manifestation Gifts = Miracles, Healings, Tongues, Interpretation

1 Peter 4:

- 7 But the end of all things is at hand; therefore be serious and watchful in your prayers.
- 8 And above all things have fervent love for one another, for "love will cover a multitude of sins."
- 9 Be hospitable to one another without grumbling.
- 10 As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.
- 11 If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies, **that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ**, to whom belong the glory and the dominion

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forever and ever. Amen.

Psalm 139:

- 1 O LORD, You have searched me and known me.
- 2 You know my sitting down and my rising up; You understand my thought afar off.
- 3 You comprehend my path and my lying down, And are acquainted with all my ways.
- 4 For there is not a word on my tongue, But behold, O LORD, You know it altogether.
- 5 You have hedged me behind and before, And laid Your hand upon me.
- 6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; It is high, I cannot attain it.
- 7 Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence?
- 8 If I ascend into heaven, You are there; If I make my bed in hell, behold, You are there.
- 9 If I take the wings of the morning, And dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,
- 10 Even there Your hand shall lead me, And Your right hand shall hold me.
- 11 If I say, "Surely the darkness shall fall on me," Even the night shall be light about me;
- 12 Indeed, the darkness shall not hide from You, But the night shines as the day; The darkness and the light are both alike to You.
- 13 For You formed my inward parts; You covered me in my mother's womb.
- 14 I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Marvelous are Your works, And that my soul knows very well.
- 15 My frame was not hidden from You, When I was made in secret, And skillfully wrought in the lowest parts of the earth.
- 16 Your eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed. And in Your book they all were written, The days fashioned for me, When as yet there were none of them.
- 17 How precious also are Your thoughts to me, O God! How great is the sum of them!
- 18 If I should count them, they would be more in number than the sand; When I awake, I am still with You.
- 19 Oh, that You would slay the wicked, O God! Depart from me, therefore, you bloodthirsty men.
- 20 For they speak against You wickedly; Your enemies take Your name in vain.
- 21 Do I not hate them, O LORD, who hate You? And do I not loathe those who rise up against You?
- 22 I hate them with perfect hatred; I count them my enemies.
- 23 Search me, O God, and know my heart; Try me, and know my anxieties;
- 24 And see if there is any wicked way in me, And lead me in the way everlasting.

God has a perfect knowledge of man – our emotions, our pain, our sorrow, our wishes, our desires, and our intent.

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Quote from *A Man Called Peter* - Peter Marshall - "God plants His own lovely dream in the human heart, and, when the dream is mature and the time is right for its fulfillment, well, to our astonishment and delight, then His will becomes ours and ours His. Now, who, but God, could have thought of anything as perfect as this?"

A horse runs with blinders on to keep him from being distracted by the other horses in the race or by other movements.

1 Timothy 4:

- 13 Till I come, give attention to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine.
- 14 Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you by prophecy with the laying on of the hands of the eldership.
- 15 Meditate on these things; give yourself entirely to them, that your progress may be evident to all.
- 16 Take heed to yourself and to the doctrine. Continue in them, for in doing this you will save both yourself and those who hear you.

Acts 9:

- 1 Then Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest
- 2 and asked letters from him to the synagogues of Damascus, so that if he found any who were of the Way, whether men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem.
- 3 As he journeyed he came near Damascus, and suddenly a light shone around him from heaven.
- 4 Then he fell to the ground, and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?"
- 5 And he said, "Who are You, Lord?" Then the Lord said, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. It is hard for you to kick against the goads."
- 6 So he, trembling and astonished, said, "Lord, what do You want me to do?" Then the Lord said to him, "Arise and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do."
- 7 And the men who journeyed with him stood speechless, hearing a voice but seeing no one.
- 8 Then Saul arose from the ground, and when his eyes were opened he saw no one. But they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus.
- 9 And he was three days without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

Ephesians 5:

- 15 See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise,
- 16 redeeming the time, because the days are evil.

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- 17 Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is.
- 18 And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit,
- 19 speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord,
- 20 giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,

Be still – and know what God has in store for you!