

Trust Busters

Judges 4 & 5

Introduction:

- A. If we trust things that can fail us (e.g. other drivers), why should we not trust God who will not fail us?
 - 1. Satan attempts to keep believers from trusting God in certain situations to make us w_____ off.
 - 2. It is never a good d_____ to not trust God.
- B. Judges 4 is about letting go of three common things that keep us from leaning on God.

Let go of past experiences

- A. The Israelites were oppressed by the Canaanite armies for 20 years
 - 1. The iron chariots and soldiers ruined c_____, stole goods & money, etc.
 - 2. Barak's 20 year experience was that r_____ was futile. So, he held on to that rather than trusting God's word that God would give him victory over the Canaanite armies.
- B. What past experiences are keeping you from trusting God's word?
 - 1. Good experiences
 - a. As we get older, we may feel u_____ because we have already had our "glory days"
 - b. Many live in those past experiences rather than dealing with how God wants them to l_____ today.
 - c. Eph 2:10 states that believers (regardless of age) are God's work of art, created in Christ to do good w_____.
 - 1) What are good works? - Doing what God w_____
 - 2) What good works does God want you to do today? – to l_____ Him and those around you.
 - 3) Try having a conversation with God when you start your day about all this.
 - 2. Bad experiences
 - a. Many bad experiences that occur in our c_____ have molded and shaped how we behave and think.
 - b. When God saved you, He made all things n_____.
 - 1) 2 Cor 5:17 – the o_____ has passed away and all things have become new.
 - 2) Rom 12:2 – let Him r_____ your mind so that you demonstrate that His will is good, acceptable, and perfect.

Let go of worldly perspectives

- A. Barak was c_____ by the Lord to gather 10,000 men and go to Mt. Tabor where He would give them victory over Sisera's army.
- 1) Barak would not go unless Deborah w_____ with him.
 - 2) Deborah complied but prophesied that Sisera (the Canaanite general) would be killed by a w_____.
 - 3) From a worldly perspective, 10,000 men was no match against _____ iron chariots and the massive amount of ground soldiers.
 - 4) However, God gave them a stunning victory. E_____ Canaanite soldier died, but zero Israelites died.
- B. Believers in Christ must view things from God's point of view which He has given us in the _____.
1. God gave the church the huge task of making disciples of __ the nations, to baptize them, and to teach them Christ's commands.
 - a. It seems i_____ from a worldly perspective.
 - b. Jesus gave the end result of this effort in Rev 5:9,10 – people from e_____ tribe, tongue, nation, and class of people will be saved and reign with Christ on the earth. It will happen.
 2. There are 7.77 billion people in the world that make up just under 12,000 people groups. 3150 people groups have no g_____ witness. But God is doing "the impossible"
 - a. He is saving m_____ Muslims and even longtime teachers of the Koran.
 - b. Every foreign missionary to Muslims testify of Muslims having v_____ in which they were told to go and hear a message. They go, hear the gospel, and accept Jesus!
- C. Let go of worldly perspectives and do what God commands.
1. G_____ to missions (Rom 10:15)
 2. P_____ for God to raise up more missionaries (Lk 10:2)
 3. Be a living w_____ to the lost around us (Matt 5:14-16)

Let go of personal pride

- A. Barak's pride was hurt by the prophecy that Sisera would be delivered into the hands of a woman.
1. When he saw Sisera run away from battle on foot, Barak pursued him because he wanted the g_____ of killing Canaan's military commander.
 2. Sisera found refuge in the t_____ of Jael
 - a. Jael's h_____ had a good relationship with the King of Canaan. So Sisera thought he was safe.
 - b. Jael gave him milk and a bed. He fell a_____ from exhaustion.
 - c. Jael killed him with a t_____ peg while he was sleeping.

3. When Barak arrived at the tent, Jael showed him Sisera's dead body. God got the glory for ending oppression. Israel had rest from all enemies for _____ years (5:31).
- B. Pride takes on many forms
1. Resolving personal conflict
 - a. Shifting the b_____ for your wrong behavior is an act of pride.
 - b. Three proper steps to overcome such pride (Jms 5:16; 1 Jn 1:9)
 - 1) A_____ your wrong without excuses
 - 2) Ask for f_____.
 - 3) Tell them that you will strive never to r_____ that wrong behavior.
 2. Our comfort zone
 - a. Pride keeps us from loving one another (i.e. doing u_____ deeds toward your fellow believer for their good – see Jn 13:35).
 - 1) Some will never get up in front of the church and s_____ their testimony. Why?
 - a) *I would get really nervous.* – this is pride.
 - b) *I am not a good speaker.* – this is pride.
 - c) _____ - it is pride!
 - 2) Some will stay distant from those who are g_____. Why?
 - a) *I feel uncomfortable* – this is pride.
 - b) *I don't know what to say* – this is pride.
 - b. Love says, *I will do this for you regardless of how uncomfortable I feel.*
 - 1) Who in this church has had to step out of their comfort zone to lead, teach, or serve?
 - 2) Who in this church has had to step out of their comfort zone to give a hug to the hurting or say, *I'm here if you need to talk*, or to pray with one who is grieving?
 3. Motives
 - a. When your motive is to gain a_____ from people for some deed, that is serving selfishly and violates the command to love one another.
 - b. Your motive must be unselfish (for the b_____ of others) which fulfills the command of God.

Conclusion

We waste a lot of time in our lives with these trust busters. Let go of them, and lean on God!