

Intro: On September 11th we are going to have an amazing service here at RTBC!
First Sunday service that our new family members from FBCE join us. (Add Vida Nueva)
One Service: 10:30am Everyone together: Both RTBC Services, FBCE and Vida Nueva (Translate)
Worship Choir, Celebrate Communion, Greetings from a Special Guest, Pig Roast afterwards (500-600)
Don't want to miss it! Start planning now on what you are going to bring...Potluck, Inside...

Last Week we talked about the importance of "Remembering Where We Came From" As we get ready for the future.
Today I want to build on that and talk with you about "Life Lessons For Going Forward Spiritually"
What Do We Need To Know? How Do We Prepare Our Hearts For The Future? What Lessons Do We Need To Learn From?

No Better Place for us to go to learn those lessons than the Children of Israel in the Desert. They Were "In Between"
As they made their journey from the past to the future God had for them, they learned some essential lessons. 1 Cor

"These things happened to them as examples and were written down as warnings for us, on whom the fulfillment of the ages has come."

4 Essential Life Lessons For Moving Forward Spiritually

1. Follow Where God Leads...Not Before Him and Not Behind Him!

- Pillar of Fire and Cloud of Smoke Exodus 13:20-22
~Never move in doubt: Unless God makes it clear...wait for him to lead you!
~If you MUST move...Move carefully
~Trust God to Tell you...No one is going to get to heaven and say, "I didn't know!"
- Numbers 9:15-23 *"they obeyed the Lord's order"* Lit = "Ordinance, safeguard, WATCH, WARD"
They looked at and listened to what God was saying...and took their cue from Him!

Illus: We often do just the opposite. We want God to take our cue from us. Put OUR agenda first...fit Him in!

Appl: Do you have a place in your life where you have heard God telling you..."Do This?" Go There?
Here is a spiritual lesson for you. UNTIL you get that part right...no other movement in your spiritual life!!!
SERVICE; GIVING: BAPTISM: MINISTRY
You don't get to say, "OK God, I hear you...But I'm going to put that on hold, do other things!"

2. Trust God To Fight Your Battles. Exodus 14:13

- Crossing the Red Sea
Vs 1: There were EXACTLY where God wanted them to be! *"Go to THIS place...and Wait!"*
Vs 13: Stand Firm, Be still and Let the Lord fight for you!
~Stand Firm: Lit = *to plant yourself, or station yourself, to settle in and not be moved*
~Be Still: Lit = *Be quiet; still your tongue...and still your heart!*

Illus: So he said to me, "This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: 'Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit,' says the LORD Almighty. Zec 4:6

Applic: Do you have some battles you can't win today? Some situations, circumstances, problems and fears that are bigger than you are? Then what you have to do is rest in Him!!!

3. Depend On God For Your Daily Provision. Exodus 16

- Provision of Manna
~Day by Day
~Cant keep more than you need w/o spoiling
~Don't give up the Sabbath
~Be willing to share
- Provision lasted until they entered the Promised Land Ex 16:35 (NEVER TOO MUCH OR TOO LITTLE)

Illus: We are just like the Israelites.
~Want more than we can use We don't dream about enough...we dream about a surplus!
~Don't want to share When we have enough...we want to spend it on ourselves! (Give?)
~Think we get more by sacrificing the Sabbath We have yet to learn to trust God to multiply what He provides!

Bible is FULL of teaching on how to manage what we have!

>Luke 12:15- 21 "The Fool"

>Mt 6: Lord's prayer..."Give us this day our daily bread" Doesn't say, Give me this year...and my retirement!

>Haggai 1:5-11 *"pockets with holes in them! You earn it...I blow it away!! Havent honored me!"*

Applic: Are you struggling with trusting God today with the details of finances and giving?

Are you overwhelmed with the details of everyday life?

Matthew 6:26 Consider the birds of the air and the flowers of the fields!

4. Prayer Changes Things!

Exodus 17:8ff

- **Battle with the Amalekites**
~When Moses arms were up..they won
~When Moses grew tired...they lost
~The key was in the prayer!

Illus: **Selfish:** **Are you praying for ME?**
 Church: **Are you praying for our ministry.**

Appl: **Next Week we are going to have a week of prayer:**
 We are going to do it differently than we have before.
 Before we did 24 hour day of prayer:
 This time we are going to publish a guide...ask you to pray every day in preparation for Sept 11

CONCL:

- **Follow Where God Leads:** **Is He Leading You Today?**
- **Trust God to Fight Your Battles:**
- **Depend on God for Daily Provision**
- **Prayer Changes Things**

If you heard God speaking to you during one of those lessons...
If there is a lesson YOU need today...You Come