

**Intro:** Next Sunday 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 "Life Lessons For Going Forward Spiritually" As we get ready for the future. Today I want to continue what we talked about, and build on that a couple of other concepts.  
**What Do We Need To Know? How Do We Prepare Our Hearts For The Future? What Lessons Do We Need To Learn From?**  
*"These things happened to them as examples and were written down as warnings for us, on whom the fulfillment of the ages has come."*

- Follow Where God Leads...Not Before and Not Behind
- Trust God to Fight Your Battles
- Depend on God For Your Daily Provision
- Prayer changes Things

4 Essential Life Lessons For Moving Forward Spiritually

**1. Pick Your Priorities...You Can't Do It All!** Exodus 18:13-27

- Moses intent was good! (Wanted to serve God and people) vs 15
- His method was wearing him out Lit = *to wilt, to fade, to waste away* vs 18
- He needed others in his life to help (Select capable/trustworthy men to help) vs 21
- Moses listened to godly advice! (He didn't just hear...he acted!) vs 24

**Applic:** We live in a culture where like Moses we try to do it all!  
 • Like Moses we have good intentions, and we try to do it all (Family, Work, Kids, School, Sports, Hobbies)  
 • We live with little if any margin! Our calendars are full buy our lives and our hearts empty,  
 • Like Moses we are exhausted. We are wearing ourselves out (Go to bed exhausted, wake up tired!)  
 • We need someone to tell us: Pick your priorities! Put Christ and serving Him first!  
 Choose to let some other things go that are not as important! We simply can't do it all!

**Illus:** Read of a Pastor that said one time, (I chose to be a poor golfer!) Loved to play golf..very good...then had children!

Phil 3:13 *"Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do..."*

**Question:** What is your ONE thing? What is most important in your life?

**2. Put Yourself On The Line For Others.** Ex 32

- Moses up on mountain getting commandments
- People got tired of waiting, made an idol (golden calf)
- God is going to judge Vs 9
- Moses INTERCEDES Vs 11-14 "Stands in the Gap between God and man"  
Sought favor Lit = *"to stroke the face of Jehovah"* Touch to soothe!
- Moses is willing to LAY DOWN his life "Blot me out of the book of life!" Lit = *to rub out...or to erase!*  
Rom 5:6-8 *"Christ died for ungodly... While we were still sinners!"*

**Applic:** Be willing to invest yourself for others!  
 Joh 10:11 *"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep."*

**Illus:** That is what WE do  
 >We intercede: We "Stand in the gap" for others Ez 22:30 I sought...found no one!  
 Prayer Journal: Place at end of week to pray for Lost!  
 > We Invest our lives: Lay down our life: Invest ourselves in others!  
 We choose to put others first: Time, Money, Talents,  
 Follow footsteps of Jesus, take the place of a servant

**3. Pursue God Above Everything Else.** Ex 33

Everything is calmed down, God has relented, destruction is no longer imminent

But God says something to Moses that no one is prepared for

- Leave this place and go on...But I'm not going with you! Vs 3  
 You can have my blessings...and my promises...but you cannot have not ME!  
 For many...that would be enough: God, if I have everything you promised...what more do I need?  
 For many people today that is enough: We have received His blessing: Country, Job, Health, House, Vaca  
 But, listen...it wasn't enough for Moses!
- Moses makes an incredible decision: I want YOU more than your blessing!

- **If your presence does not go with us...don't send us forward!** Vs 15-16  
 "We don't want to go forward without you!" Vs 16
- **Moses KNEW what he would be leaving behind!!!**  
 >Moses had been meeting with God in the Tent of Meeting "Place of Appointment"  
 >Joshua had been STAYING in the Tent of Meeting "Did not leave" Lingered in presence of God  
 Once you TRULY have experienced the presence of God in your life...NOTHING else satisfies!  
 Moses had experienced it...an there was NO blessing from God that would ever take the place OF God!

**Applic:** This is the question you have to settle. Do you want GOD?  
 Or do you simply want His blessings?  
 Are you satisfied without Him? If you get His blessing is it enough?  
 Are you willing to settle for the house, car, family, retirement acct...or do you continue to believe  
 God there is more! God I'm going to make an appt with you...stay with you...Linger in your presence  
 And if I cant have YOU...I don't want anything else.

**Illus:** For some of us, we settle for less...because we have NEVER known more  
 We have HEARD about His presence...but we have never experienced it  
 Listen, When you MEET and SPEND TIME with God...It shows!  
 Acts 4:13 Arrested, Told Stop Preaching: Took note, these men had been with Jesus

**Quest:** DOES IT SHOW IN YOUR LIFE?

**CONCL:**  
 They were getting ready to go into the Promised Land  
 Time for them to Learn Some Lessons:

- **Pick Your Priorities:** Have you done that...and is God first?
- **Put Yourself on the Line:** Are you doing that for others? Interceding: Prayer Journal
- **Pursue God Above all Else:** Do you want HIM or His Blessings?

We are getting ready to Go forward spiritually:

- **Pick Your Priorities:** Have you done that...and is God first?
- **Put Yourself on the Line:** Are you doing that for others? Interceding: Prayer Journal
- **Pursue God Above all Else:** Do you want HIM or His Blessings?