TURN THE SHIP

Toby Newnum, October 15&16, 2016

EPHESIANS4.1&14

Therefore I, a prisoner for serving the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of your calling, for you have been called by God. Then we will no longer be immature like children. We won't be tossed and blown about by every wind of new teaching.

DON'T PUT YOUR FAITH IN _____

MATTHEW5.20

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vision TEACHING NOTES

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TURN THE SHIP

1. GET ON COURSE

Paul wrote to the Ephesians and BEGGED them to get on course. As he put it, *"I beg you to lead a life worthy of your calling, for you have been called by God."* In order for us to lead such a life, we first need to answer the call. God has already chosen us, but have we chosen Him? We choose God when we give Him our life. It's adecision, a definitive point in our life. It doesn't have to be eloquent or formal, just sincere. We don't have to try to know everything or clean up everyting in our life, God welcomes us like a perfect Dad who's child has come home. We set ourselves on course when we surrender our life to Him.

2. GET BACK ON COURSE

For some of us, we know we have veered off course. Sometimes way off. It may have been a gradual drift where we wake up one day and wonder how we got there. It could have been a foolish reaction or decision – a sharp turn when temptation came or some event that brought anger and we turned to ungodly sedatives, actions, or relationships. The great news is that we can get back on course by coming back to God. He welcomes us back. Set your sights on the destination He has for you and point your life straight at Him.

3. LIVE ON COURSE

We will never find that place in earthly life when our calling is to kick back and drift. The gate is narrow, the pathway is difficult, the resistance will always be there. As soon as we shut down the engines or lower the sails, we'll begin to flow wherever the current takes us. It doesn't mean we can't have joy and rest. God actually commanded that we are to take time to rest, but we rest SO THAT we can better live and work in a way that is worthy of our calling. God has given the church a course and we are now turning the ship toward it. As well as contributing to the course of your church, God has a course for your individual life. Live the course every day and see all the amazing experiences God will bring you to.

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