

Vision: Helping People Win In Life (on the foundation of a Personal & Growing Relationship with Jesus Christ)



Mission: Helping People Win In Life through environments designed to help them take their next steps in Christian Maturity.

Sunday, April 2, 2017

Sermon Notes

NOW...Is The Time:

“Conquer Disbelief ~ Get Your Breakthrough ~ Experience Victory”

Pastor Bob Washington

Icebreaker: What’s your favorite book or movie?

Scripture Reading: James 1:5-8; Hebrews 11:6; Mark 9:17-29

James 1:5-8 -- ⁵If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. ⁶ But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind. ⁷ For that person must not suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; ⁸ he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

Hebrews 11:6 -- “Without Faith it is impossible to please God.”

Mark 9:17-29 -- ¹⁷ ... “Teacher, I brought you my son, who is possessed by a spirit that has robbed him of speech. ¹⁸ Whenever it seizes him, it throws him to the ground. He foams at the mouth, gnashes his teeth and becomes rigid. I asked your disciples to drive out the spirit, but they could not.” ¹⁹ “You unbelieving generation,” Jesus replied, “how long shall I stay with you? How long shall I put up with you? Bring the boy to me.” ²⁰ So they brought him. When the spirit saw Jesus, it immediately threw the boy into a convulsion. He fell to the ground and rolled around, foaming at the mouth. ²¹ Jesus asked the boy’s father, “How long has he been like this?” “From childhood,” he answered. ²² “It has often thrown him into fire or water to kill him. But if you can do anything, take pity on us and help us.” ²³ “If you can?” said Jesus. “Everything is possible for one who believes.” ²⁴ Immediately the boy’s father exclaimed, “I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief!” ²⁵ When Jesus saw that a crowd was running to the scene, he rebuked the impure spirit. “You deaf and mute spirit,” he said, “I command you, come out of him and never enter him again.” ²⁶ The spirit shrieked, convulsed him violently and came out. The boy looked so much like a corpse that many said, “He’s dead.” ²⁷ But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him to his feet, and he stood up. ²⁸ After Jesus had gone indoors, his disciples asked him privately, “Why couldn’t we drive it out?” ²⁹ He replied, “This kind can come out only by prayer.”

3 Ways to Get the Breakthrough & Victory You Need:

1. Confide in Jesus

Scripture References:

Mark 9:17-22 (see scripture above)

Psalms 145:18-19 – “The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth. He fulfills the desires of those who fear him; he hears their cry and saves them.”

Exodus 15:26 – “I am the Lord who heals you.”

Philippians 4:19 – “And my God will meet all your needs...”

2. **Have Courage to Change**

Scripture References:

Mark 9:23-24 (see scripture above)

The father had a *contrite* heart. He *humbled* himself.

James 4:10 – “*Humble yourself before the Lord and he will exalt you.*”

James 4:6 -- “*God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble.*”

3. **Connect To the Power of Christ**

Scripture References:

Mark 9:25-29 (see scripture above)

Ephesians 1:18-19 -- ¹⁸ *I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, ¹⁹ and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength ²⁰ he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, ²¹ far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come.*

Questions for Discussion:

1. When was the last time you brought a family member or friend to Jesus?
2. What situation have you been struggling with so long in your life or in the life of a loved one that you stopped believing God for a miracle?

Outline for Small Group (1 ½ hour)

- I. Light Refreshments, Fellowship and Icebreaker (15 minutes)
- II. Praise, Worship and Opening Prayer (10 minutes)
- III. Discussion (45 Minutes)
- IV. Vision Highlight & Testimony (Including Purposes-Community, Discipleship, Ministry, Evangelism, Worship) – (15 minutes)
- V. Closing Prayer (5 Minutes)