FINDING THE RIGHT PATH

Jeremiah 6:16

This is what the LORD says: "Stop at the crossroads and look around. Ask for the old, godly way, and walk in it. Travel its path, and you will find rest for your souls....



GOD'S RESET

• Jeremiah 6:16–17 (NLT) — 16 This is what the LORD says: "Stop at the crossroads and look around. Ask for the old, godly way, and walk in it. Travel its path, and you will find rest for your souls. But you reply, 'No, that's not the road we want!' 17 I posted watchmen over you who said, 'Listen for the sound of the alarm.' But you replied, 'No! We won't pay attention!'

STOP---LOOK---ASK---WALK

- 1. STOP: Take the divine pause at the "Crossroads" = an intersection of two or more roads. A point at which a crucial decision must be made that will have far-reaching consequences
- 2. LOOK: Where am I in my life; priorities; relationships with God and others
- 3. ASK: Specifically for "old godly ways"; God's wisdom; revelation; direction;
- 4. WALK: In the knowledge revealed

GOD'S PRIORITIES...GOD'S OLD PATHS REVEALED IN CHRIST

- 1. GOD THE FATHER: Mt 22:37 Love God with all heart, soul and mind
- 2. SOULS: Luke 19:10 Jesus came to seek and save those who are lost
- 3. FREEDOM: 1 JOHN 3:8 Jesus came to destroy the works of the devil
- **4. MESSAGE OF THE KINGDOM**: Luke 4:43 Jesus came to preach the "good news" message of the Kingdom.

RESET... RETURNING TO THE OLD PATHS

- Renew Your Passion for God
 - Eliminate UnnecessaryBaggage
 - Simplify Your Life
 - Enlarge Your Vision
- Train Yourself for Godliness

R-RENEW YOUR PASSION FOR GOD

- Revelation 2:4–5 (TPT) But I have this against you: you have abandoned the passionate love you had for me at the beginning. 5 Think about how far you have fallen! Repent and do the works of love you did at first. I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place of influence if you do not repent.
 - What did your "first love" look like?
 - What does your love look like now?

WHAT DOES GOD EXPECT? EVERYTHING!

• Matthew 10:37–38 (NLT) — 37 "If you love your father or mother more than you love me, you are not worthy of being mine; or if you love your son or daughter more than me, you are not worthy of being mine. 38 If you refuse to take up your cross and follow me, you are not worthy of being mine.

THE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE FIRST LOVE (ZACHARIAS T. FOMUM)

- 1. Hot: Nothing cold about it
- 2. Spontaneous: Flows on its own
- 3. Extravagant: Holds back nothing and gives all for the moment
- 4. Full of Joy
- 5. Seeks no fulfillment outside the object of affection
- 6. Does everything to satisfy the slightest desire of the beloved
- 7. Does everything to be in the presence of the beloved
- 8. Speaks constantly about the beloved. Can't be quiet
- 9. Gets rid of anything that displeases the beloved
- 10. Always takes the side of the beloved

E-ELIMINATE YOUR UNNECESSARY BAGGAGE

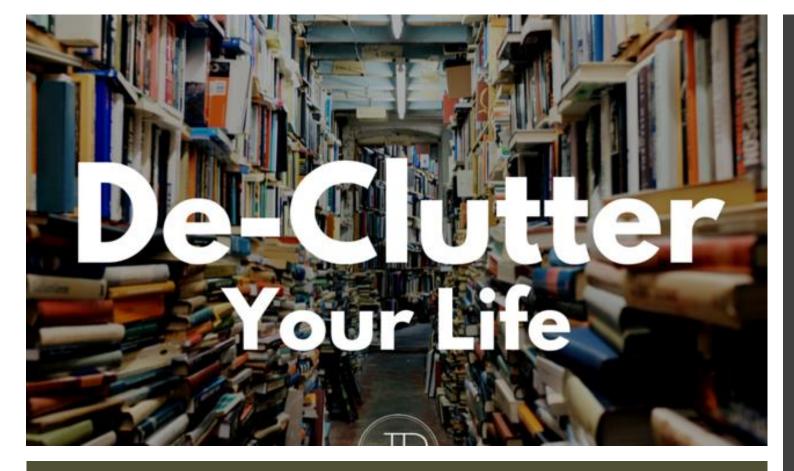
- Hebrews 12:1 (NLT) Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to the life of faith, let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily trips us up. And let us run with endurance the race God has set before us.
 - weight⇔ bulk n. something immaterial that interferes with or delays action or progress; understood as a large and weighty mass. A hindrance
 - Context: a runner in a race who will strip off everything that will hinder or slow down



S-SIMPLIFY YOUR LIFE

- 2 Corinthians 1:12 (ESV) For our boast is this, the testimony of our conscience, that we behaved in the world with simplicity and godly sincerity, not by earthly wisdom but by the grace of God, and supremely so toward you.
- Acts 2:46 (AMP) And day after day they regularly assembled in the temple with united purpose,...they partook of their food with gladness and simplicity and generous hearts
- 1 Corinthians 14:33 (NLT) For God is not a God of disorder but of peace...

Sometimes, the only way to figure out what is really important is to **get rid of** everything that isn't.



"SIMPLICITY IS THE ULTIMATE SOPHISTICATION." ~ LEONARDO DA VINCI

- Simplicity: the state of being uncomplicated or uncompounded
 - Freedom from pretense or guilt
- Simplicity is the absence of disorder, confusion, chaos

E-ENLARGE YOUR VISION

- Isaiah 55:8–9 (ESV) 8 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. 9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.
- **Ephesians 3:18 (NLT** And may you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep his love is.
- Isaiah 54:2–3 (ESV) 2 "Enlarge the place of your tent, and let the curtains of your habitations be stretched out; do not hold back; lengthen your cords and strengthen your stakes. 3 For you will spread abroad to the right and to the left, and your offspring will possess the nations and will people the desolate cities.
- John 10:10 (ESV) The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

T-TRAIN YOURSELF FOR GODLINESS

- 1 Timothy 4:7–8 (ESV) 7 Have nothing to do with irreverent, silly myths.

 Rather train yourself for godliness; 8 for while bodily training is of some value, godliness is of value in every way, as it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come.
- **Psalm 18:34 (NLT)** He trains my hands for battle; he strengthens my arm to draw a bronze bow.
- **Psalm 144:1 (NLT)** Praise the LORD, who is my rock. He trains my hands for war and gives my fingers skill for battle.
- **Hebrews 5:14 (NLT) 14** Solid food is for those who are mature, who through training have the skill to recognize the difference between right and wrong.

READY...RESET...GO!



1 Corinthians 9:24–27 (NLT) — 24 Don't you realize that in a race everyone runs, but only one person gets the prize? So run to win! 25 All athletes are disciplined in their training. They do it to win a prize that will fade away, but we do it for an eternal prize. 26 So I run with purpose in every step. I am not just shadowboxing. 27 I discipline my body like an athlete, training it to do what it should. Otherwise, I fear that after preaching to others I myself might be disqualified.