

# **Remember God's Got This**

*Proverbs 3:1-7*

## **INTRODUCTION**

This morning, as we gather here in a unique way today, I want us to take time to remember God's got this, which is the title of this morning's talk. It is in times such as these that it is easy to forget this foundation principle of Christian living. When we are in doubt, our minds, which are coated with evil, come up with some pretty anti-Christian thoughts in how to solve our problems or in how we interact with our fellow human.

As I discussed earlier in this past week in the "Check-in With the Pastor" meeting, it is easy to get frustrated and impatient with people as this shut down prolongs. The first week or so of it, things were ok, but the longer it goes the more doubts and fears creep in and the more our patience runs out, say with our family that we are quarantined with, or the lady at the check-out counter or fellow employees that we are still working with as everyone questions their job future. This is understandable, but we must hit the reboot button for a bit and get our lives back in check and under the authority of Christ the Lord. Our goal is to be like Him, that even when under pressure, He still had the goals of heaven in mind, such as the statement on the cross, "Father, forgive them for they don't know what they are doing." May this be a reboot moment for us all.

*Proverbs 3:1-7*

My son, do not forget my teaching, but keep my commands in your heart, for they will prolong your life many years and bring you prosperity.

Let love and faithfulness never leave you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart. Then you will win favor and a good name in the sight of God and man.

Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.

Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD and shun evil.

## I. Remember What You Know

- A. Right now as we learn through these uncharted times, we need to learn and be open to learning, but we also need to remember what we know.
- B. This proverb reminds us not to forget!
- C. It is easy to forget God's faithfulness when we are in need and uncertainty.
- D. It is easy to forget God's sovereignty when everything is in chaos and confusion.
- E. It is easy to forget...
- F. We must remember to keep ourselves centered around the Lord so that we can find solace in tumultuous times, but also so that we can remain salt and light for the rest of the world.
- G. We must remember that God is faithful and hasn't left us even when life throws us a curveball.
- H. We must remember that God is still just as present in all this as He was before all this.
- I. We must remember that God is a God of promises who said, "I'll never leave you nor will I abandon you." Just like week in the Great Commission Jesus said, "I am with you until the end of the age."
- J. We must remember the truths of Scripture that we know and stand firm to these over and above what our present feelings are telling us. Over and above what the stock market is telling us. Over and above what the skeptics and critics are telling us.
- K. What about those of old?
  1. Do you think Noah wondered about day 30?
  2. Do you think Moses had some questions about year 39 of wandering in the desert?
  3. Jonah about day 2 in the belly of the fish?
  4. How about David when he was at about step 200 in the Valley of Elah walking towards a killer giant warrior named Goliath.

5. How about Peter? Shouldn't he have remembered about the 3<sup>rd</sup> step out of the boat who he was walking towards? Didn't he come to remember when he was crucified upside down?
6. What about Judas Iscariot? Shouldn't he have remembered the miracles, the authority, the power of Jesus instead of betrayal?
7. Didn't Paul remember as he was shipwrecked, beaten, stoned, etc?

L. The ones I just named who remained faithful remembered God's got this.

M. We need the Noah's, the David's, the Moses, the Peter's and the Paul's of our day to rise up and remember the faithfulness and commands of the Lord.

N. We must remember!!!

### ***John 16:33***

I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."<sup>1</sup>

## **II. Remember How To Live**

- A. During anytime, but especially in difficult times, we need to let love and faithfulness be our constant companion.
- B. Why these two?
  1. Love needs to continue to be the atmosphere and attitude in which we live
  2. Faithfulness remembers our commitment to Christ.
- C. We discussed earlier this week in the meeting "Check-in with the Pastor" that it is easy to get frustrated during this time of not knowing. All of our OCD tendencies are on edge because we are recognizing we never had control to begin with. Our patience has or will soon run out and we can feel the emotional upheaval inside ourselves that in normal times we are better at hiding.
- D. We need now to press into love not just being a good or sweet idea, but rather love being our authority. The God who is love is our authority. We must remain or maybe for the first time learn to love. Love is more meaningful displayed in times of distress than in times of ease.

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<sup>1</sup> [The Holy Bible: New International Version](#). (1984). (Jn 16:33). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan.

- E. We need to be faithful, as the proverb says, because commitment in the good times is good, but faithfulness is eye catching before God and man when the pressure is on, the temptation is present, and the emotions are all over the place.
- F. Staying faithful and loving in such conditions displays the presence of God in us and through us.
- G. Notice the proverb says “bind them around your neck”. In another words when the winds of change or the winds of confusion, or the winds of fear, etc. all show up, keep them close and where they won’t fly off from you.
- H. So let’s do a litmus test...How are you doing in your love and faithfulness during these uncharted times?
1. Are you staying in God’s presence?
  2. Are you staying in His Word?
  3. Are you allowing worship to overcome you at times?
  4. Are you still on mission with His Great Commission?
  5. Are you keeping Christ the focus?
  6. Or has all this fallen to the wayside and become secondary since we haven’t been having services in the church building?
- I. We are still called and commanded to be the church even when we don’t meet here. We still should be meeting regularly with our Commander-In-Chief, King Jesus.
- J. This should be more than just a prayer. This should be where we let our minds and hearts roam the truths of Heaven so that we may have strength here on Earth.

### ***Colossians 1:10-12***

And we pray this in order that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and may please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, and joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the kingdom of light.

### III. Remember Who To Trust

- A. In times such as these it is hard to know who to trust.
- B. You turn on the news or talk radio and you will hear truth to propaganda to conspiracy to political agendas to flat out lies.
- C. It's hard to know who to trust, and when this happens it makes our heart and emotions skip a beat because doubt creeps in and messes with our mind.
- D. This is the devil at work without question. Satan wants to stir up doubts in your hearts. Not so much towards your fellow human, although there is that, but mainly toward the promises of God.
- E. Doubt is a plague, and it is heavy to carry.

#### **John McArthur**

For some reason, we think of doubt and worry as "small" sins. But when a Christian displays unbelief...or an inability to cope with life, he is saying to the world, "My God cannot be trusted," and that kind of disrespect makes one guilty of a fundamental error, the heinous sin of dishonoring God. That is no small sin.

#### **Charles Spurgeon**

Doubt discovers difficulties which it never solves; it creates hesitancy, despondency, despair. Its progress is the decay of comfort, the death of peace. "Believe!" is the word which speaks life into a man, but doubt nails down his coffin.

- F. We as followers of Christ are called to trust. To place the weight of our existence into the Hands who created the universe.
- G. The proverb so often quoted tells us to trust or rely on the Lord with the center of our being, the center of our will, our whole heart. The heart for the ancient world was the center of being and will not, as Hallmark would have it, the center of emotions. Emotions are like cotton candy. They often look good, feel good, but there is no substance and quickly disappear.
- H. Are you relying on God through this time? Or has your faithfulness been reduced to nothing or to only mere convenience?
- I. It goes on to say, 'Lean not on your own understanding' or 'Don't trust yourselves.' This flies in the face of the "**know it all's**" of the world.

- J. Many of us are putting more faith in ourselves to figure out how to get through this and less faith in Christ, which should be the other way around. We need to put less faith in us because we can't control a single day, and more faith in Jesus.
- K. The proverb goes onto say "In all your ways acknowledge Him..." In every compartment or department of your life you need to proclaim Jesus as Lord of it. We need to knock the walls down in our hearts and let Jesus reign and rule.
- L. The result will be that "He will put you on straight paths." Why straight paths? Because there are less crooks and we get to our destination sooner.

### **J.C. Ryle**

Doubting does not prove that a man has no faith, but only that his faith is small. And even when our faith is small, the Lord is ready to help us.

## **IV. Remember Who Is In Charge**

### ***Revelation 1:8***

I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty."

- A. This last part of our text gets to the heart of it all, remembering who is in charge.
- B. Our control or our need for control has a lot to say, or rather reveal, who we put in charge of life. Control freaks don't put Christ in charge as their lips may say, but they put themselves in charge.
- C. Often fear is behind the curtain of their life pulling the strings of their control needs, but it reveals an unsundered heart.
- D. When we are screaming for control, we are screaming for God to be moved out of our lives revealing we don't trust anyone but ourselves.
- E. We must remember God's Got This!
- F. As I've said before, in my office in Tennessee, I had a little red sign that said, "I've got this! God." Many clients would come into my office and tell me they were glad I put that sign up for them. My reply would be simple, "It's for me."
- G. We all need to be reminded who is in charge.
- H. Let's face it, there have been worse tragedies we have had to face before now.

- I. And God is not a God who is only God in the good times, but truly reveals His glory in the difficult.
- J. This proverb again flies in the face of the “know it all’s” by saying ‘don’t be wise in your eyes.’”
- K. Too many Christians fall into this category. We don’t ask for help because it makes us feel weak, which is a testament to our own pride, and we believe we can figure everything out. We can’t!
- L. And to the ‘Know it all’s’ for a moment, do us all a favor and keep your mouth shut. Quit playing God of your life and of everybody else’s!!!
- M. The proverb goes onto say ‘fear the Lord’ which doesn’t mean to be afraid of Him, but rather stand in awe of Him. Remain in the glory of the Lord because that is where peace is found.
- N. Shun evil. With so many at home as the old saying goes, “Idol hands are the devil’s workshop” rather be intentional to shun evil and this begins with the mind.
- O. Protect your heart by guarding your mind.

### ***Ephesians 6:10-13***

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground

- P. The best way to shun evil is to be proactive in doing good.

### ***Galatians 6:9-10***

Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.

## **CONCLUSION**

I conclude this morning with a verse that has comforted me many times in the past. I believe Paul sums it all up in these few verses.

### ***Philippians 4:4-7***

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.