

STAY CLOSE #7 – I GOT THIS(?)

Psalm 37:1-9

02/20/2022
Sunday a.m.

SLIDE 1 – COVER SLIDE

SLIDE 2 – STAY CLOSE – PROMISE & PRESENCE – 2022

- Not a fearful “stay close” THINK: invitation to ***dwell*** (the shadow of Most High)
 - Covenant = PROMISE – “**this is how things will always be between us**”
 - Upheld by the good will, good name, & power of the greater party
- God’s PROMISES (Who He is, what He does;) & PRESENCE (never leave you)
- **PS. 37:1-9** – Think on this– esp. in the context of our STAY CLOSE theme

SLIDES 3-7 – PSALM 37:1-9

SLIDE 8 – SELF-RELIANCE

- Remember – ‘be careful to do/obey/follow ALL you know; God’s law, instructions, precepts, etc...
- Jericho – step-by-step rely on God for everything
 - TROUBLE – Ascribing God’s favor, blessing, & presence to ME
 - b/c Jericho was a daunting challenge, the rest will be ‘easy’
 - it was easy b/c it was GOD’S power in action, not Israel’s
- Self-reliance (vs. God-reliance) – overestimation of personal abilities
 - **DISCLAIMER** – Not incapable or unable to care for self; more of an orientation of self that submits our *ways & means* to God’s *ways & means*
 - Not a rejection of God outright; God relegated to obvious BIG things
 - Self-reliance – pride/self-sufficiency
 - God-reliance – humility

SLIDE 9 – ISRAEL – “WE GOT THIS”

- Post-Jericho → Ai & Gibeon – “we got this”
- Ai – went forward w/own plans b/c Ai was small/not a fortress like Jericho
 - Achan’s disobedience w/the ‘devoted things’ – cost many lives
 - Word of knowledge – revealed his sin, led to death of whole family

SLIDE 10 – MAP OF ISRAEL/GIBEON

- **Joshua 9** – Gibeonite deception – post-Jericho responses
- Hill-country kings chose to band together to fight against Israel as one unit
- City of Gibeon chose a different tactic – deception
 - We can’t beat them; know their marching orders are to wipe us all out
 - “Far away kingdom, so let’s be friends” ploy – “let’s make a covenant”
 - Old, worn-out equipment (sacks, wineskins, clothes/sandals, etc...)
 - Old, crusty food & supplies – ‘this was all new when we started’
- Joshua/Israel’s elders – “how do we know you’re not from around here?”
 - Gibeon – “Nope, we’re from far away. Let’s make a covenant”
 - Israel – “How can we know this?”

- Gibeon – “We are your servants – we heard about God’s exploits in Egypt & what y’all did to Sihon & Og - & we want to be in covenant”
- **Joshua 9:14** – Israel – “we got this” – took them at their word, checked out their supplies/story & DID NOT ask counsel from the Lord
 - Joshua – made peace & made a covenant with them; sworn oaths
- 3 days later – Israel’s advance scouts discovered the lies – OOPS
 - “y’all lied” “yeah we did” “We oughta take you out” “You promised”
 - Compromise – Gibeonites to serve Israel in hard labor jobs
- OUTCOME? No big deal? Or TROUBLE b/c disobedience always leaves marks?

SLIDES 11,12 – PSALM 37:3-6 (focused context)

SLIDE 13 – TRUST IN THE LORD

- As a way of life – put your trust (confidence, hope, security) in the Lord
- Do good, dwell in the Land (that which God promised to you)
- Day-to-day trusting in the Lord; this is WHO we are; WHAT we do
 - Do this (trust Him) & enjoy the results (faithfulness, protection, etc)
- Take DELIGHT in the Lord – “treat yo’self” in the Lord (pamper, enjoy the delicate & fancy that is found in/results from walking w/the Lord)
 - He will give you desires of your heart – aka desires, petitions, requests

SLIDE 14 – COMMIT YOUR WAY

- Commit your way to the Lord – “Throw yourself toward the way of the Lord”
 - “roll down, get rolling” – aka Westley & Buttercup – to the Lord
 - Trust Him & He will ACT; He will establish your righteousness
 - He will vindicate you (your life, ways, etc...) when you’re attacked

SLIDE 15 – WHAT ARE WE DOING WITH THIS?

- What do we see in this account?
- What do we take away as the ‘point’? Application?
- How does this affect me/us today? Any lessons/insights/instructions for me?
- When/why do I need ‘help’ from God?
- What level of my own life am I comfortable in doing ‘on my own?’
- What does it look like, lived out, to commit way to Lord?
 - ...to trust in Lord w/all heart & not lean on own understanding?

SLIDE 16 – PSALM 139:23,24

- Prayer of repentance – search me father, know my heart, try me know my mind...

SLIDE 17 – STAY CLOSE – 2022

- Stay close to Jesus
- Be flexible/open to God-directed change
- Be prepared – when God says “Get ready”
- Be strong & very courageous – God is WITH us
- Be careful to obey all we know to obey

SLIDE 18 – THE BLESSING – NUMBERS 6:22-27

- **Numbers 6:22-27** *The LORD bless you & keep you; the LORD make his face shine on you & be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you & give you peace.” So they will put my name on the Israelites, and I will bless them.”*