

# 08/17/25 Message

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Part of Faith Over Fear

August 16, 2025

## Message: Walking Blind

### Series: Faith Over Feelings

## Review

The first message in this series was called You've Arrived! Behind the title, it was a message about where you are in this moment, every decision, every action, everything you've done up to this moment has led you to where you are.

Do you like where you are?

Does God like where you are?

If not, where you are doesn't have to be your destination; if you're saved, your destination is heaven. Anywhere in between is just a stop on the way, so keep pressing on. You keep on keeping on by deciding to change. It's a great picture of repentance. The only people who put it in park and simply become okay with staying where they are, are dead. Because where you are isn't the destination God planned for you!

## You're Walking Blind

*From the moment you were created, God created you to trust Him, completely. It's a deep trust, dependent on ignoring your senses, and trusting in who you know! It begs the question - Do you know Him?*

—Pastor Chad

### **2 Corinthians 5:1-10 (NLT)**

1 For we know that when this earthly tent we live in is taken down (that is, when we die and leave this earthly body), we will have a house in heaven, an eternal body made for us by God himself and not by human hands.

2 We grow weary in our present bodies, and we long to put on our heavenly bodies like new clothing.

3 For we will put on heavenly bodies; we will not be spirits without bodies.

4 While we live in these earthly bodies, we groan and sigh, but it's not that we want to die and get rid of these bodies that clothe us. Rather, we want to put on our new bodies so that these dying bodies will be swallowed up by life.

5 God himself has prepared us for this, and as a guarantee he has given us his Holy Spirit.

6 So we are always confident, even though we know that as long as we live in these bodies we are not at home with the Lord.

7 For we live by believing and not by seeing.

8 Yes, we are fully confident, and we would rather be away from these earthly bodies, for then we will be at home with the Lord.

9 So whether we are here in this body or away from this body, our goal is to please him.

10 For we must all stand before Christ to be judged. We will each receive whatever we deserve for the good or evil we have done in this earthly body.

*We read this, yet we are walking blind, day after day... having to lean on, trust in, and commit to something. For some, it's ourselves. For others, it's someone else. For many, it's something else (a dependency, an addiction). For a few, it's God. I say few because from what I read in Scripture, only a few people get it. Matthew 7:22 tells us that on that day many will plead their case, and those many will be told, "Get away from Me, I never knew you." The opposite of many are a few, so I have to believe that a few... a minority of us... a few trust God so much, a few walk by faith and not by sight. How do we do that? How do we walk by faith and not by sight? He tells us in the preceding verse.*

*—Pastor Chad*

## **2 Corinthians 5:6 (NLT)**

So we are always confident, even though we know that as long as we live in these bodies we are not at home with the Lord.

*The only way we can walk by faith and not by sight is to always be confident. Confident that our destination is never where we are and our destination is never where we can go on this earth. You might hear this and think geography... where we can go... but we're talking chronologically. Your destination is not where you are, and it's not where you can go for the days ahead that God gives you on this planet. When we have confidence in that, it means we shed confidence in the here and now. Stop trusting in where you are, stop believing that you're stuck, stop wallowing in your woulda, shoulda, and coulda's. Stop committing all your time, your talents, and your treasures into making this the best moment of your life, because the best is yet to come!*

*—Pastor Chad*

It's all about walking by faith and not by feelings.  
It's all about trusting your faith over your feelings!

Ever heard these sayings:

- Follow your heart
- Trust your gut
- Do what feels right

Pastor Chad's recommendations for life decisions:

- Never make a life changing decision in the middle of a crisis, let your feelings stabilize and come back to reality before you ever make the decision
- When you need to make a decision, let it simmer for at least 24 hours before acting on it, your feelings might just be different 24 hours later and it will keep you from making a decision you'll later regret

There's a problem with that...

- Feelings are REAL
- Feelings are UNRELIABLE

If feelings weren't real, Paul would have never been told by God to write 2 Corinthians 5:7. If feelings weren't real, the Corinthians wouldn't have needed to be reminded to live by faith and not by sight. Feelings are real and feelings are strong. Sometimes feelings are overwhelming.

*Just because feelings are real doesn't mean feelings are true. I know many people who feel alone, but in reality, they are surrounded by love. I know many people who feel afraid, but in reality, they have nothing to fear. I can't count the times I've heard people say, "I'm in the middle of this but God is silent!" or "Where is God when I need Him?" That's when I whisper, "God is speaking through His Word (through the Bible). Have you read it lately?"*

*—Pastor Chad*

### ***Jeremiah 17:9 (NLT)***

The human heart is the most deceitful of all things, and desperately wicked. Who really knows how bad it is?

*Preach it Jeremiah! If you use the heart as your GPS, then you'll get lost every time. If you trust your gut, you're likely trusting nothing but gas. If you do what feels right, you're trusting something that's deceitful and desperately wicked. Because your feelings are real, but they're not reliable!*

*—Pastor Chad*

*Instead of letting your feelings lead you, bring your feelings to the feet of Jesus.*

*—author unknown*

- Faith isn't rooted in our FEELINGS
  - Faith is rooted in GOD

True faith is looking beyond your feelings.

*If our faith were rooted in our feelings, then we'd only believe in God when we're living in the moment of sunshine and roses. But anyone who has lived a few transitions around the sun knows: Sometimes we experience sunshine and roses and sometimes we experience storms and thorns. It's called life. And in the game of life our feelings change with the wind, but God has promised us that He will never change. True faith. Genuine faith. Authentic faith is rooted in God. It's choosing to believe God over how or what we feel.*

—Pastor Chad

**2 Cor. 12:9** teaches us when we feel weak, have faith that His power is made perfect in my weakness

**2 Cor. 5:21** teaches when we feel unworthy, have faith that you are the righteousness of God in Jesus

**2 Tim. 1:7** teaches when we feel afraid, have faith that God has not given you a spirit of fear, but of power, love, and a sound mind.

*At the end of the day, when feelings are involved, it's a rollercoaster and it's tiring. Anyone ever left an argument and not felt exhausted? Don't you get tired of being sick and tired? Don't you get tired of being consumed by feelings? When we live by feelings, it's like one moment we're close to God and one moment we're not. One moment it seems you are fired up about your faith and the next it's like you don't have any faith at all. It's wishy-washy faith but we don't serve a wishy-washy God. In my study this week something slapped me in the face...*

*There's a freedom and a stability that comes when we live by faith in our unchanging, rock-solid God. When He's the source of our joy, our joy doesn't change based on our circumstances or the events that rock our world. The events will still rock our world, but our spirit will not be shaken. Our peace isn't determined by our mood. Our identity isn't based on how we feel, it's centered on God's unchanging hand and His presence in our life.*

—Pastor Chad

**Isaiah 26:3** teaches us that if we trust in God and if we keep our thoughts fixed on God... He'll give us a perfect peace!

**Isaiah 26:3 (NLT)**

You will keep in perfect peace all who trust in you, all whose thoughts are fixed on you!

It's the peace we get when we have faith over feelings!

## **Actions for Walking Blind**

Steps to take:

- Stop
- Pray
- Read God's Word
- Walk by faith

*It's okay to walk blind, it's how we were designed. God intended for us to see Him over the distractions. God intended for us to hear Him over the noise. God intended for us to follow Him and walk by faith! I think some of us need to put on our blinders this morning and connect with God in a new, completely dependent way, so He is the only one who leads, guides, and directs us. It's choosing Him over anything and anyone else! It's choosing faith over feelings!*

*—Pastor Chad*