Muscle Memory Loyalty September 1, 2024

Muscle Memory Explained

- Repeated tensing and relaxing of muscles for daily tasks
- Tasks performed automatically and without thought
- "Muscle Memory" is really brain development

Purpose of this message

- Many of our responses are learned responses and done without much thought
- Positive or negative
- Evaluate what was learned and why I respond the way I do
- How to change responses
- Development of a response of loyalty to God and His Word
- Becoming your Default response
- Avoiding the path of least resistance
- "Spiritual Muscles" need to be strengthened
- Practice makes Perfect

Senses Trained

- Hebrews 5:11–14 … Solid food is for those who are mature, who through training have the skill to recognize the difference between right and wrong. (NASB95 …who because of practice have their senses trained to discern good and evil.)
- 2 Corinthians 11:1–4 …I fear that somehow your pure and undivided devotion to Christ will be corrupted… You happily put up with whatever anyone tells you
- 2 Corinthians 10:3–5 … knock down the strongholds of human reasoning and to destroy false arguments
- Ephesians 4:14 …We will not be influenced when people try to trick us with lies so clever they sound like the truth.

1 Samuel 15

- The Lord told me to anoint you as king
- Now listen to this message from the Lord
- God settling accounts with the nation of Amalek
- Go and completely destroy the entire nation, people and animals
- They spared king Agag's life
- They kept the best of the animals
- The Lord said to Samuel [11] "I am sorry that I ever made Saul king, for **he has not been loyal to me** and has refused to obey my command."
- Saul to Samuel – I have carried out the Lord's command
- Then what is all the bleating of the animals I hear?
- They are for sacrifice
- Why haven't you obeyed the Lord?
- I did – these are for sacrifice
- Obedience is better than sacrifice
- Rebellion is as sinful as witchcraft
- Stubbornness as bad as idolatry
- God has rejected you as king

1 Samuel 13:11–14 …But now your kingdom must end, for the Lord has sought out a man after his own heart. The Lord has already appointed him to be the leader of his people, because you have not kept the Lord's command."

- Loyalty leads to Royalty – lack thereof leads to removal of
- Proverbs 14:12; 16:25 (NLT) — 12 There is a path before each person that seems right, but it ends in death.
- Psalm 51:16–17 (NLT) — 16 You do not desire a sacrifice, or I would offer one. You do not want a burnt offering. 17 The sacrifice you desire is a broken spirit. You will not reject a broken and repentant heart, O God.
- To compromise God's word is to be disloyal to God

For the Spiritual Development (Spiritual Muscle Memory)

- Know the Word
- Discern good and evil by exercise – do the word (obedience)
- Fear God – not man
- Galatians 5:16 (NLT) — 16 So I say, let the Holy Spirit guide your lives. Then you won't be doing what your sinful nature craves.
- Habitually respond in obedience