Loyalty August 18, 2024

Initiation of this series

First day of Summer

- Prayer for Balance
- Things scheduled
- June 3 – prayer/reflection time – Prayer for Balance
    - Service for the Lord
    - Work on the house
    - Rest and Recreation
    - Fellowship and Communion with Heavenly Father
    - I ask for a listening heart and an ear to hear what the Spirit would say to me

In the heart of Summer

- July 7 – Prayer/Reflection time – reflecting back on June 3 prayer for balance

James 1:1-8

- If you need wisdom, ask our generous God
- He will give it to you
- But when you ask, be sure your faith is in God alone
- A person with divided loyalty is as unsettled as a wave of the sea
- Don't expect to receive anything from the Lord
- Loyalty divided between God and the world
- Unstable in everything they do

Loyalty Defined – Faithful and unswerving in allegiance - implies a firm resistance to any temptation to desert or betray

- This can be increasing
- The more divided we are in our loyalty – the more unstable we will be
- If there is one thing we need in the culture of our day is a stability that keeps you secure
    - Secure in your worldview (Biblical)
    - Secure in who you are in Christ
    - Secure in who is your source for all that you need
- James 1:8 (NLT) — 8 Their loyalty is divided between God and the world, and they are unstable in everything they do.
- James 1:8 (NASB95) — 8 being a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.
- James 1:8 (Amplified) 8 being a double-minded man, unstable and restless in all his ways [in everything he thinks, feels, or decides]
- James 1:8 (MSG) — 8 adrift at sea, keeping all your options open.

James 1:2–4

- Troubles test the strength of your loyalty –
    - When they come your way
    - Faith is tested
    - Opportunity for full development, completion, maturity

Illustration of Davey Blackburn

- Davey Blackburn at Northwoods Church – Gulf Port , MS
  August 11, 2024

YouTube Video

Comments from Davey Blackburn

- Muscle Memory

Nothing is Wasted Book

Divided Loyalty

- James 1:6… for a person with divided loyalty is as unsettled as a wave of the sea that is blown and tossed by the wind.
    - Blown and tossed by the wind
    - Shipwrecked faith
- 1 Timothy 1:19 (NLT) — 19 Cling to your faith in Christ, and keep your conscience clear. For some people have deliberately violated their consciences; as a result, their faith has been shipwrecked.
- Ephesians 4:11–14 … We won't be tossed and blown about…