



09/17/2023 - PASTOR MICHAEL WELBORN

### "FROM THIS TIME MANY OF HIS DISCIPLES TURNED BACK AND NO LONGER FOLLOWED HIM." JOHN 6:66, NIV

IF WHAT YOU BELIEVE ABOUT GOD DOES NOT MAKE YOU MOVE AND CANNOT MAKE YOU WAIT AND DOES NOT CAUSE YOU TO GIVE AND DOES NOT MAKE YOU PURSUE AND IS NOT STRONG ENOUGH TO CAUSE YOU TO ENDURE THEN IT IS NOT A DANGEROUS FAITH.

# REAL FAITH IS A COMPLICATED AND GLORIOUS THING. IT IS A GIFT. IT IS A DECISION. IT IS A LIFE.

### "IF YOU DON'T TRUST ME TO BE YOUR GOD ON THIS 'PARTICULAR JOURNEY', HOW CAN YOU TRUST ME TO BE YOUR GOD ANYWHERE?"

## Unlike our own will, God's will can be trusted.

### THERE IS NO WAY TO KNOW THAT GOD IS BETTER THAN LIFE WHILE SIMULTANEOUSLY HOLDING ON TO LIFE LIKE IT IS BETTER THAN GOD.

### "I AM THE BREAD OF LIFE. NO ONE WHO COMES TO ME WILL EVER BE HUNGRY, AND NO ONE WHO BELIEVES IN ME WILL NEVER BE THIRSTY AGAIN."

### WILL YOU SURRENDER TO HIM?

# SURRENDER IS THE LIFEBLOOD OF THE DANGEROUS CHRISTIANS

### THE CONTEXT IN WHICH ANY OF THESE SPECS MOVES FROM 'IDEALS EXPLAINED" TO "LIVED EXPERIENCE" IS OUR WILLINGNESS TO FOLLOW JESUS INTO THE SCARY PLACES.

### HE SCARY PLACES ARE ANYWHERE OR ANYTHING THAT GOD CALLS YOU TO THAT FEARS TRIES TO TALK YOU

## FAITH IS NOT DEMONSTRATED ON PLATFORMS BUT IN THE TRENCHES.

# THE CURRENCY OF THE CHRISTIANITY OF CHRIST IS SACRIFICE.

### LOVING GOD AND OTHERS IS DEMONSTRATED BY OUR WILLINGNESS TO BE INCONVENIENCED, TO BE MADE UNCOMFORTABLE, AND ADJUST OUR OWN LIVES FOR THE BENEFIT OF OTHER PEOPLE.

### CHURCH, LOVE IS DEMONSTRATED NOT BY WHAT WE HOLD ON TO, OUR POSSESSIONS, OUR WAY OF LIFE, BUT BY WHAT WE ARE WILLING TO GIVE UP.

### WE MUST STRENGTHEN OUR FAITH DAILY THROUGH OUR WILLINGNESS TO SACRIFICE, ESPECIALLY FOR THOSE AROUND US.

### OUR GENUINE WILLINGNESS TO LOSE FOR THE SAKE OF OUR NEIGHBOR'S GAIN IS THE ONLY WAY TO MAINTAIN THE HEALTHY, THRIVING, DANGEROUS FAITH AND TO LIVE AN ABUNDANT LIFE.

## THAT LEAVES NOT BY EXAMPLE BUT BY OPINION.

### T'S ONE THING TO SAY WE ARE CHRIST FOLLOWERS. IT IS ANOTHER TO SHOW WE ARE CHRIST FOLLOWERS, TO AUTHENTICALLY LIVE IT OUT.

### "Our refuge, and our fortress, OUR GOD IN WHOM WE TRUST... HIS FAITHFULNESS WILL BE OUR PROTECTIVE SHIELD." PSALM 9:1-2

### WHEN OUR RIGHT TO LOVE JESUS IS DEPENDENT ON THE GOVERNMENT KEEPING IT SAFE, WE ARE NOT WORSHIPING JESUS, WE ARE WORSHIPPING OUR SAFETY.

AND AS THE CHURCH, WE ARE NOT CALLED TO BE SAFE. WE ARE CALLED TO LOVE. WE ARE CALLED TO SURRENDER. WE'RE CALLED TO SACRIFICE. WE'RE CALLED TO A WILLINGNESS TO BE UNCOMFORTABLE.

#### T IS TIME FOR THE CHURCH TO STEP OUT OF OUR AIR-CONDITIONED FAITH INTO THE HEAT OF REALITY, SECURE IN THE KNOWLEDGE THAT GOD WILL PROTECT US NO MATTER WHAT COMES OUR WAY.

### BUT GOD HAS PROMISED TO SAVE US... NOT FROM THE FURNACE...BUT IN THE FURNACE.

"38 FOR I AM CONVINCED THAT NEITHER DEATH NOR LIFE, NEITHER ANGELS NOR DEMONS, NEITHER THE PRESENT NOR THE FUTURE, NOR ANY POWERS, 39 NEITHER HEIGHT NOR DEPTH, NOR ANYTHING ELSE IN ALL CREATION, WILL BE ABLE TO SEPARATE US FROM THE LOVE OF GOD THAT IS IN CHRIST JESUS OUR LORD." ROMANS 8:38-39)