

Weekly Study of Sunday's Message.
Sunday August 12, 2018. Sight part 2.

A. Intro.

Welcome to the weekly devotional that gives you some specific things to work thru from the message on Sunday. Whether you were able to attend the worship service or not, this devotional is free-standing and you can still go thru it to help you dig deeper in your own spiritual walk. Take as long as you need to dive into this material and feel free to share it.

B. Sunday's Message.

Last week Pastor Lamar talked about the importance of developing the ability and skill of growing what he called "sight", and framed this in the terms of "*hindsight*" and "*insight*". Hindsight is the ability to look back and see how God moved in specific areas of your life, even when you couldn't feel it in the moment. And then that 'belief', a growing relationship with God, will allow you to see him in the current situations of your life, or what Lamar called 'insight'.

We can grow our ability to see God in all the situations of our life if we fight the urge to default to our intuition or what we feel, (feelings can be so deceptive and unreliable), but to investigate, to gather more information, to better understand and find God even if we can't feel him.

So, a couple of questions to get us thinking about our ability to use "hindsight" and "insight" wisely.

What can cause us to miss God in those situations of our life?

What feelings, or default reactions, do you battle or have to overcome in order to do a better job growing your "insight"?

Sunday Pastor Lamar talked about growing our "*foresight*" or ability to predict the action needed, or predict what will be needed for the future. In order to take that next step of developing these 'sights', we have to take our practice of hindsight and insight and apply those skills to grow the ability to do "*foresight*" well. Or to put it in everyday terms...to **do "*if...then*" well**. That means you can recognize and identify patterns, and then take those patterns out to their natural logical conclusion to know what should, could, or needs to happen. THIS is foresight.

This is one of the most important skills we can develop, and if we can learn to grow this skill then we can master the direction of our own lives. See what I did there?! "*IF...we learn THEN we will*". See how important this is?

But many of us struggle with doing "*if...then*", growing our "foresight" skill.

Why is that? What makes doing this well so difficult?

What are some of the specific things that we have to deal with in doing "*if...then*" well?

There were many scripture passages used Sunday, but a primary one was **Amos 3:3-7**. A really intriguing passage about being able to 'see' things BEFORE they happen. Read the passage and discuss.

There is a lot of poetic language in this passage, but what is the primary point being made? What are some signs in our society and culture that we possibly need to not only notice, but to read them specifically as calls to action for us?

There is so much going on around us, and we miss so much of it, therefore we miss God. And because we miss God working, we miss opportunities to join into this work God is doing. We are so easily distracted and caught up in lesser things. We don't develop and hone our skill to see how God worked in our past- "*hindsight*", to see God in the midst of our life now- "*insight*", we miss out on how we can help be a part of the work that needs to be done- "*foresight*".

It's in developing these skills, growing our "sights", that we **find what we're really looking for in life...meaning, purpose, and REAL happiness or contentment**. You can see how important doing this well is.

So...final question.

What are you willing to do, changes you can make in your everyday, ordinary, walking around life to begin to develop these skills and live the life you were created for?