

SEQUOIA NOTES

Today's Sequoia Message...

A Long Obedience in the Same Direction

With Ryan Dawson - Lead Pastor
June 25, 2023



- **We live in a world where we so often want immediate results.**
- **But the Christian Life cannot mature under such conditions.**

"The essential thing in heaven and earth is...that there should be long obedience in the same direction; there thereby results, and has always resulted in the long run, something which has made life worth living." Friedrich Nietzsche

Disciple: We are to be people who spend our lives apprenticed to our master Jesus.

Pilgrim: We spend our lives journeying with and to God, on the "Way" of Jesus Christ.

Psalm 120 (NLT) *A song for pilgrims ascending to Jerusalem.*

- ¹ I took my troubles to the Lord;
I cried out to him, and he answered my prayer.
- ² Rescue me, O Lord, from liars and from all deceitful people.
- ³ O deceptive tongue, what will God do to you?
How will he increase your punishment?
- ⁴ You will be pierced with sharp arrows and burned with glowing coals.
- ⁵ How I suffer in far-off Meshech.
It pains me to live in distant Kedar.
- ⁶ I am tired of living among people who hate peace.
- ⁷ I search for peace; but when I speak of peace, they want war.

- **Dissatisfaction & despair can be a stimulus for change.**

- **God is waiting at the crossroads.**

Jeremiah 6:16 (NLT) "This is what the Lord says: 'Stop at the crossroads and look around. Ask for the old, godly way, and walk in it. Travel its path, and you will find rest for your souls.'"

- **A "No" to the world, becomes a "Yes" to God.**

Isaiah 53:5 (NLT) "But [Messiah] was pierced for our rebellion, crushed for our sins. He was beaten so we could be whole. He was whipped so we could be healed."

- **What "no" do you need to say to the world today?**
- **What "no" do you need to say to yourself today?**
- **Where do you need to repent?**
- **What "yes" do you need to say to God today?**

Big Idea: Choose the pilgrim's path & repent to experience God's greater "yes".



Sequoia Impact Communities are where we
live out our identity as a
Family of Servants on Mission.

To get plugged in email:

impactcommunities@sequoiachurch.org

A Long Obedience in the Same Direction
#1 of 11 - June 25, 2023

- 1) Last week we looked at 1 Peter 2:4-10. How has the Lord been speaking to you this week? How were you able to apply this message?
- 2) Read Psalm 121. What is the **Context** for this passage? Where is this taking place in the book as a whole (what comes before or after)? Who is the writer and who are the recipients? Where does it fit in the Bible? What's the theme of this chapter, or passage? What's the historical and cultural context?
- 3) **Observation:** What "jumps out" in this passages? What interesting details do you observe? What questions come up about the passage? What is the major theme in the passage?
- 4) **Meaning:** What was the meaning for the original recipients? What meaning is inferred in this passage for us as we journey with God?
- 5) Read Jeremiah 6:16. What does this passage mean for us today?
- 6) How is God "waiting for you at the crossroads" today? Where is God trying to get your attention? What "fork in the road" are you currently experiencing?
- 7) **Application:** How is God speaking to you through this passage?
- 8) What "no" do you need to say to the world today?
- 9) What "no" do you need to say to yourself today?
- 10) Where do you need to repent?
- 11) What "yes" do you need to say to God today?



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