

Summary

In this sermon delivered during New Covenant Church's 24th anniversary celebration, the pastor reflects on God's faithfulness throughout the church's journey and calls the congregation to remember His goodness. Drawing from stories of miraculous provision, physical healing, and divine guidance, he emphasizes that God has not changed and remains willing to act on behalf of His people. The sermon centers on the truth that remembering what God has done in the past builds the faith needed to trust Him for the future. The pastor also calls the congregation to embrace three key spiritual practices: remembering God's faithfulness, practicing genuine repentance, and believing in God's power to restore. Using the story of David at Ziklag as a foundation, he encourages believers to strengthen themselves in the Lord during difficult seasons, stand on the promises of God, and pursue a renewed passion for the Holy Spirit and for reaching people who do not yet know Jesus.

Intro Prayer

Heavenly Father, we come before You today grateful for Your faithfulness and goodness in our lives. As we open Your Word together, we ask that You quiet our hearts and open our minds to what You want to speak to each of us personally. Holy Spirit, lead this conversation. Let us not simply discuss ideas, but let us encounter You in a fresh way. May anything that needs to be remembered, repented of, or restored in our lives be brought to the surface by Your gentle hand. We trust You with this time, and we welcome You into this group. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Ice Breaker

What is one of your favorite childhood memories of a time when someone came through for you in an unexpected way?

Key Verses

- Matthew 8:2-3
- Numbers 11:21-23
- Romans 2:4
- 1 John 1:9

- Acts 2:38
- 2 Corinthians 7:10
- 1 Samuel 30:6
- Isaiah 61:1-4

Questions

- The pastor opened with the story of the leper in Matthew 8 who said, 'Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean.' Jesus responded, 'I am willing.' In what area of your life do you most need to hear God say, 'I am willing' right now?
- The sermon emphasized the importance of remembering God's faithfulness, comparing it to ancient landmarks that reminded people of what God had done. What is one 'landmark' moment in your own life where you clearly saw God show up?
- The pastor referenced Proverbs 22:28 and the idea of not removing ancient landmarks. How do you personally keep the memory of God's faithfulness alive in your daily life, especially during hard seasons?
- In Numbers 11, Moses questioned whether God could really provide for 600,000 people, and God responded by asking, 'Has the Lord's arm become shortened?' When have you found yourself doubting God's ability to handle the size of your problem? What helped you regain perspective?
- The pastor described repentance not as a burden but as a gift, saying it opens the door to the continued work of the Holy Spirit. How has your understanding of repentance changed over time, and how do you practice it in your daily walk with God?
- David's response at Ziklag was to strengthen himself in the Lord rather than blame others or give up. What does it look like practically for you to encourage yourself in the Lord when no one else is around to lift you up?
- The sermon touched on standing on prophetic words and promises from God even when they seem delayed. Is there a promise from God that you are still waiting to see fulfilled? How do you keep your faith strong while you wait?
- The pastor closed with a call to renewed passion for reaching people who do not know Jesus, saying that God's will is that none should perish. What is one practical step you can take this week to invest in someone in your life who does not yet know Jesus?

Life Application

This week, take time to build your own personal 'landmark.' Write down three specific moments in your life where God showed up in a way that only He could. Keep that list somewhere visible, like on your phone, your mirror, or in your journal. When doubt or difficulty comes, return to that list and let it remind you that the God who was faithful then is the same God who is with you now. As an added step, pray and ask God to show you one person in your life who needs to hear about His goodness, and look for an opportunity to share it with them.

Key Takeaways

- God has not changed. He is still willing and able to heal, provide, and restore, just as He has done throughout history and in the lives of His people.
- Remembering God's faithfulness is not about living in the past. It is about building a reservoir of faith that propels us forward with confidence into what God has ahead.
- Repentance is a gift, not a punishment. It cleanses us, opens us to the work of the Holy Spirit, and positions us to receive more of God's blessing in our lives.
- When life falls apart, we must learn to strengthen ourselves in the Lord, as David did at Ziklag, by turning to God in prayer and standing on His promises rather than our circumstances.
- God's heart is for people to be saved and restored. As His church, we are called to invest in the lives of those around us and invite them into a relationship with Jesus.

Ending Prayer

Lord, we thank You for the time we have shared together today. Thank You for Your Word that reminds us You have not changed and Your arm has not grown short. We ask that the things discussed today would not stay in this room but would take root in each of our hearts and produce real fruit in our lives this week. Where repentance is needed, give us the courage and humility to come before You. Where promises feel delayed, strengthen our faith to keep standing. And where there are people around us who do not yet know You, give us eyes to see them and hearts that are willing to reach out. We receive Your goodness, Your restoration, and Your Spirit afresh today. In Jesus' name, Amen.