

Catching His Wind: Letting Go

Only love allows us to surrender our lives to God and be carried into His presence forever.

As this series nears its conclusion we must be sure we've grasped what God has said in these words. So that we can be in His will, which takes us His way. Ultimately our desire must be to be eternally where He dwells. He's trying to bring us home, and if we refuse to let go of our own way, it will lead to our own demise. Which is eternal separation from God, the damnation of our souls. We must never do what is right in our own eyes, when God is trying to save us from ourselves.

When a bird opens its wings in the direction of the wind, its lifted and carried by another power. It's enabled to travel further, and fly faster than it ever could've on its own. If it waits on the wind it can soar!

Isaiah 40:31 New King James Version

31 But those who wait on the Lord
Shall renew their strength;
They shall mount up with wings like eagles,
They shall run and not be weary,
They shall walk and not faint.

When are willing and obedient to the word of the Father, the power of the Holy Spirit, brings us into the presence of Jesus. The only thing that can save us from the destruction of this world is our absolute acceptance and obedience to the word of God. Faith in the word alone has the power to save us!

Romans 1:16 New Living Translation

16 For I am not ashamed of this Good News about Christ. It is the power of God at work, saving everyone who believes—the Jew first and also the Gentile.[a]

If you want the power of God to propel your lives forward you must catch His wind, by spending time in His word daily. How often? Those who hear the word and fail to obey are not saved by hearing, but by believing and

acting upon what they've heard. Once we hear the word we must let go of our way, and go with God! Are we ready to hear? Are we ready to obey? No matter the cost?

Romans 10:17 New King James Version

17 So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Prayer

Choose Life & Choose Christ

Mark 10:17-20 New Living Translation

17 As Jesus was starting out on his way to Jerusalem, a man came running up to him, knelt down, and asked, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" 18 "Why do you call me good?" Jesus asked. "Only God is truly good. 19 But to answer your question, you know the commandments: 'You must not murder. You must not commit adultery. You must not steal. You must not testify falsely. You must not cheat anyone. Honor your father and mother.'[a]" 20 "Teacher," the man replied, "I've obeyed all these commandments since I was young."

- It appears that this man had caught the wind of God! He was doing everything that He knew to obey His word, to stay in His will, and to go His way.
- But even He knew there was something missing! Why else would he have asked what must be done for him to inherit eternal life?
- Do you recognize anything within your own life that is keeping you from grasping on to eternal life?

John 14:6 New Living Translation

6 Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me.

Mark 10:21-27 New Living Translation

21 Looking at the man, Jesus felt genuine love for him.

- Thank you for your genuine love for me Jesus the way, tell me the truth, that leads to life!

“There is still one thing you haven’t done,” he told him. “Go and sell all your possessions and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.” 22 At this the man’s face fell, and he went away sad, for he had many possessions.

- When the wind hits you in the face it falls. When the truth brings conviction to your life your head will drop.
- When you’re going with God the wind is at your back propelling you forward.
- When you find out you’re going against God, no man can endure going any further. His power is much too great.

23 Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, “How hard it is for the rich to enter the Kingdom of God!” 24 This amazed them. But Jesus said again, “Dear children, it is very hard[a] to enter the Kingdom of God. 25 In fact, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the Kingdom of God!” 26 The disciples were astounded. “Then who in the world can be saved?” they asked. 27 Jesus looked at them intently and said, “Humanly speaking, it is impossible. But not with God. Everything is possible with God.”

Sermon Illustrations

1. Man facing away from God vs. facing towards.

- When we go with God, we go in the direction of His word, will, and way. It’s like His arm and power are behind us. Our arms are lifted like wings of willingness and obedience.
- When to go against God, His power is against us and we can go no further. We are facing Him with our arms down, we are unwilling and disobedient.
- Only repentance turns us around.

2. A blowing fan and a piece of paper.

- When we go against God's word, will, and way we find ourselves being removed far from Him.
- But when we humble ourselves, and go with Him instead of against Him, we are pulled close and kept by His power.
- We must get behind God and follow!
- Being led by the power of His spirit, so no matter which way He turns, we are with Him!
- When I catch his wind, I am saying not my will, but thy will be done, and this enables me to go with his flow and be carried much further than I could've taken myself. I become a part of his Kingdom agenda.

Letting Go

John 15:9-14 New Living Translation

9 "I have loved you even as the Father has loved me. Remain in my love. 10 When you obey my commandments, you remain in my love, just as I obey my Father's commandments and remain in his love.

- When we let go of our lives, and our own way, we remain in the power of His love. Just as Jesus was able to complete His assignment on earth by living in obedience, and being kept by the power of His father's love.

11 I have told you these things so that you will be filled with my joy. Yes, your joy will overflow! 12 This is my commandment: Love each other in the same way I have loved you. 13 There is no greater love than to lay down one's life for one's friends. 14 You are my friends if you do what I command.

- Love is what keeps us united with the Father, obedience draws us near.

Matthew 22:34-40 New Living Translation

34 But when the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees with his reply, they met together to question him again. 35 One of them, an expert in religious law, tried to trap him with this question: 36 "Teacher, which is the most important commandment in the law of Moses?" 37 Jesus replied, "'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.'[a] 38 This

is the first and greatest commandment. 39 A second is equally important: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'[b] 40 The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments."

- To love with all the heart, soul, and mind, is to present each as a living and holy sacrifice.
- It is the giving away or denial of the whole self.
- Turning the body over for God's use to be led by His spirit

Matthew 16:24-26 New Living Translation

24 Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If any of you wants to be my follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross, and follow me. 25 If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake, you will save it. 26 And what do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own soul?[a] Is anything worth more than your soul?

If you hold onto your life, you will lose it. If you give it to him, you will find it. He is life. Sacrificing our lives gives us his.

- The danger of not giving all is that the enemy will still have access to use those areas. Whatever parts of our lives we don't give to God become threats against the kingdom within. The righteousness, peace, and joy we have in the Holy Spirit is surrendered.
- If we don't give him our whole heart, then like Judas Satan can fill it.
- If we don't give him our eyes then like David lust can overtake them.
- If we don't give him our hands then like Anaïs and Sapphira, we will take what belongs to the Lord and say that we haven't.
- If we don't give him our mind we can lose it like the King Nebuchadnezzar who became like an animal
- If we don't give him our strength, like the rich young ruler, we'll leave his presence with great sorrow. By refusing to let go of all that we have, we receive nothing He gives.

