

# Welcome!

SERIES: CLUTTER Today's Message: Unclutter Your Future Dr. Lance D. Watson, Senior Pastor

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**PRAYER:** On this 113<sup>th</sup> Anniversary day we thank you, Lord, for the Saint Paul's Baptist Church. We praise you for all the joy we have known in fellowship, and we pray for all those who together make up this community of your people, so that our church may be a real home for all who share its life. We pray for those who bear responsibility for leadership: that they may be guided by your wisdom and sustained by your strength. We pray for every person in every stage of life that your blessing would rest upon them. We thank you for your faithfulness in the past, and ask for the strength, courage, and vision to be faithful to you in the future. Make us channels of your grace and joy. In the mighty name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

**ICEBREAKER:** If you were coming out on a stage today, what would your entrance song be?

**MESSAGE RECAP:** It does us good to remember where we have been, and to reevaluate where we are going. As people of faith, we can draw encouragement from past experiences of walking with the Lord. We stand back and see God's sustaining grace, provision, salvation, and deliverance and we can say—I saw God do it. We remember how God has been there for us when there was no other place to turn. We have watched God open doors of opportunity. These remembrances cause us to refocus our faith in our great God and Savior. Looking back at the past unclutters our future and enables us to live with confidence no matter what.

SCRIPTURE: Read Hebrews 10:32-39 (Message)

#### **DISCUSSION:**

- 1. What was your biggest takeaway from the message? What's one thing you learned? What questions came to mind as you listened to the message today? What points did you find most insightful? How did the message challenge you?
- 2. Most people do better "starting something," than "sustaining something." What about you? Are you better at starting or sustaining? Why do you think this is the case?
- 3. Think about romantic relationships. How would you describe the start of those relationships? What does it take to sustain those feelings? Is it possible? Think about the start of your relationship with God. How can you rekindle those initial feelings of discovery and faith?
- 4. If you had to measure your certainty about your faith in God, would you say that you are more or less certain now than you were five years ago? What strengthens our faith in God? What makes us more or less certain about God's promises?



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- 5. How does our remembrance of the past unclutter our vision of the future? The writer of Hebrews urged these early believers not to, "Throw away your confidence." How strong or shaky is your confidence in your Savior? How can you strengthen it?
- 6. Any championship NFL team plays half their games as "road games," with the crowd cheering against them. At times in our broken world following Christ feels like playing a road game. The early Christians in our text faced that reality. Like a good coach, the writer of Hebrews encouraged them not to let the pressure of a hostile crowd rob them of victory in the game of life. Can you recall a time when you felt like giving up? What happened?

**CHALLENGE:** What is one "a-ha" moment you had in our group discussion today. Note it and write it down. If you applied your learning from this week's message, how would the next week be different for you?

SERVE: How is God calling us to live out this message this week? As individuals? As a group?

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Take this time to share group announcements. Church wide and campus specific announcements can be found at <u>www.myspbc.org</u>. You can also "find, follow and like" our Facebook page at <u>www.facebook.com/myspbc</u>. Turn on your notifications.

**CELEBRATIONS:** Take this time to share praise reports (e.g., answered prayers, birthdays, anniversaries, promotions).

**PRAYER REQUESTS AND PRAYER:** Take this time to share prayer requests. Close with prayer.





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NOTICE: PLEASE BE PATIENT AS WE GRADUALLY REOPEN OUR CAMPUSES IN THE SAFEST MANNER POSSIBLE. As a small group leader, we depend on you to show members that we care. Here's a list of resources to help you.

#### FOR PRAYER:

CALL: 804.463.2472 EMAIL: prayer@myspbc.org.

#### TO REQUEST A HOSPITAL VISIT:

### FOR COUNSELING:

CALL: 804.643.6177 EMAIL: <u>Barnabas@myspbc.org</u>

CALL: 804.304.3890 (For Emergencies) EMAIL: ecare@myspbc.org. TO REQUEST FUNERAL SUPPORT:

CALL: 804.304.3890 (Pastor On Call) EMAIL: ecare@myspbc.org.

TO FIND A SUPPORT GROUP:

CALL: 804.643.6177 EMAIL: <u>Barnabas@myspbc.org</u>. TO REQUEST EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE:

CALL: 804.643.4000 EMAIL: <u>emergencyassistance@myspbc.org</u>.

### TO CONTACT MY LIFE STAGE PASTOR:

CALL: 804.643.4000 and Press 1 for the Dial By Name Directory

EMAIL:

- Imagination (0-10): Vernita Williams: <u>Vernita.Williams@myspbc.org</u>
- SMB (11-19): Martina Jones-Smith: <u>Martina.Jones-Smith@myspbc.org</u>
- Dreamchasers (20-29): Juan Shackelford: juan.shackelford@myspbc.org
- Aspire (30-39): Lance Watson, Jr.: <u>lance.watsonjr@myspbc.org</u>
- Fusion (40-49): Michelle Townsend: <u>michelle.townsend@myspbc.org</u>
- Encore (50-59): Jamie Duncan: <u>Jamie.Duncan@myspbc.org</u>
- Prime Time (60-69): Maceo Freeman: <u>maceo.freeman@myspbc.org</u>
- Refiners (70+): Roscoe Jones: <u>roscoe.jones@myspbc.org</u>

GPS is a study guide based on the weekend message. The purpose of this guide is to assist small groups in study. Previous GPS Guides are available online at <u>www.myspbc.org</u>.