

STUDY
STUDY
PRAY
FAST
WORSHIP
FELLOWSHIP
REST
SERVE
CELEBRATE
GENEROUS
CHASTE
MAKE DISCIPLES
OBEY
MEDITATE
SEEK
WITNESS
MEMORISE



Fresh Start

JOB 29:20

Fresh Start in Soul-winning

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Sunday 19th February 2023

Foundation Scripture:

Isaiah 58:1-11

Introduction

Isaiah 58 can be compared to John 3:16, because it speaks to the heart and burden of God.

In order to easily get a mental appreciation of scripture, we first need to grasp the depth of God's being, His emotion as well as His mind and power.

The Importance of Forgiveness

Isaiah 58:6 says: "Is this not the fast that I have chosen: to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, to let the oppressed go free, and that you break every yoke?"

One of the heaviest yokes is the one that unforgiveness puts on people.

Harbouring unforgiveness is like locking someone up in a prison, and for those that don't know Jesus, we are closing the access to the Kingdom to such people.

Matthew 6:12: “And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.”

The Lord’s prayer is the Kingdom prayer, and in the middle of this is a prayer of forgiveness.

Sometimes we can live with the hurts caused by loved ones, but we must remember that we have been forgiven much. Therefore, we are empowered to forgive others!

“If all of our wrongdoings and transgressions were to be entered into a book, the book would be full to overflowing.” – *Reverend David Proudfoot*.

Forgiveness can be hard sometimes; it is a journey, it is every day. Nonetheless, we need to extend God’s grace to our world, even if it is tough.

We need God’s forgiveness but we need to forgive others first. The entrance into God’s kingdom for our world is through forgiveness. There is no access into God’s kingdom except through the doorway of forgiveness. We enter that doorway through the sacrifice on the cross by Christ.

Be forgiveness-embodied to your world. In the process, you are opening the door to the Kingdom of God; it releases them from the prison and burden of unforgiveness.

Our World Needs Us!

Secularisation is like ice upon a lake where everything – in this case humanity: friends, relatives, work associates, fellow students, business associates, neighbours, etc. - looks good but it is superficial. Beneath the ice, there is so much life and fish underneath, and once the ice is broken, we can enjoy the life under the water.

Under the right conditions, ice can melt and be broken, so that we can enjoy the benefits of the life inside.

Similarly, beneath the ice surface, down in the depth is the human spirit that can become broken in order for the Spirit of God to come alive.

Although our world seems secularised, they have the capacity to know God through their human spirit.

The spirit of man is the candle of the Lord. God wants to enlighten the darkness of the world, setting alight the human spirit that was lying dormant, so that they know God. This is why we should be confident with the message that we carry.

Lastly...

“It is a wonderful thing when you begin to communicate the life that is within you.” – *Reverend David Proudfoot*.

When we evangelise, our:

1. Spiritual strength is restored,
2. Purpose is restored.

Christianity does not begin with a set of rules and laws, it begins with an invitation.

If we are enjoying God’s blessings and not sharing them, it is time for a fresh start in evangelism.

We have a job to do, and it begins now!