#### Holy Habits The Power To Change July 23, 2023 Pastor Lane Olson New Song Community Church

**Truth in a Nutshell:** If you want to change your life, change your habits. Consistent intentional habits are what make your plans work.

## A. We are creatures of Habit!

- 1. Where we are today is largely shaped by our habits.
- 2. Our strategy to change cannot be based on Hope.
- 3. If we want to change our life, we have to change our **Habits.**

## B. The first call to God's purpose for your life is *relationship*.

- 1. Intimacy is the key to knowing God's heart.
- 2. Daniel in Babylon.
  - i. Taken Captive.
  - ii. King's food / interpreted the King's dream (Daniel Ch 2)
- 3. Kings reward.

**Daniel 2:46-48 (NLT)**Then King Nebuchadnezzar threw himself down before Daniel and worshiped him, and he commanded his people to offer sacrifices and burn sweet incense before him. <sup>47</sup> The king said to Daniel, "Truly, your God is the greatest of gods, the Lord over kings, a revealer of mysteries, for you have been able to reveal this secret."

<sup>48</sup> Then the king appointed Daniel to a high position and gave him many valuable gifts. He made Daniel ruler over the whole province of Babylon, as well as chief over all his wise men.

- 4. Habits shape our identity.
  - i. The habit of prayer 3 times a day shaped Daniel's identity.
  - ii. Close to God / wisdom from God.
  - iii. Favor of God on his life.
- 5. Our Identity / success is linked to our habits.

6. The habit that saved Daniel's life.

**Daniel 6:5 (NIV)** Finally these men said, "We will never find any basis for charges against this man Daniel unless it has something to do with the law of his God."

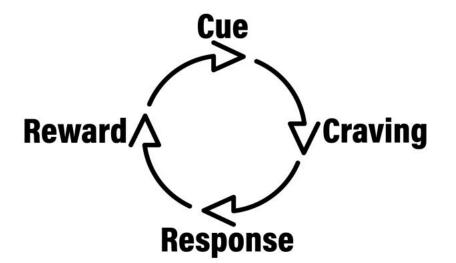
**Daniel 6:10 (NIV)** Now when Daniel learned that the decree had been published, he went home to his upstairs room where the windows opened toward Jerusalem. <u>Three times</u> <u>a day</u> <u>he got down on his knees and prayed</u>, giving thanks to his God, just as he had done <u>before</u>.

# C. How do you change your Habits?

- 1. Start with small doable changes.
- 2. Based on who you want to become, what's one habit you need to start?

**Hebrews 10:25 (NLT)** Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

- 3. How to Create a New Habit.
  - i. Make it obvious.



If you want to change what you do, change your cues.

ii. Make it easy.

I will do \_\_\_\_\_\_after I \_\_\_\_\_\_.

**1 Timothy 4:8 (NLT)** "*Physical training is good, <u>but training for godliness is much</u> <u>better</u>, promising benefits in this life and in the life to come."* 

**Zechariah 4:10 (NLT)** "Do not despise these small beginnings, for the LORD rejoices to see the work begin ..."

4. Based on who you want to become, what's one habit you need to stop?

## Next Steps: Today I am:

- 1. Committing my life to Christ.
- 2. Committing my life pursuing a closer relationship with Christ.
- 3. Determined to start the Holy Habit of \_
- 4. With God's help stopping an Unholy Habit