

NSD Notes

For though I be free from all men, yet have I made myself servant unto all, that I might gain the more. (1 Cor. 9:19)
Volume 6, No. 05 May 2, 2010

Services

- Bible Study 10 a.m.
- Morning Service.....11 a.m.
- Evening Service.....6 p.m.
- Wednesday Meeting.....7 p.m.

News @ NSD

- **Robyn Hamilton's** sister, in skilled nursing facility in New Orleans recovering from a car accident.
- **Janna Wells** – back problems.
- **Martha Holloway's** recurring back and heart ailment.
- **Dema's** sister-in-law – liver and bone cancer.
- **Scott Shaw's** dad, Tommy – battling liver cancer.
- **Jeanne Lynne** – recovering from surgeries.
- **Matt Wells** – travelling this week.
- **Ernest Peeples** – deploying this month.
- **Logan Harper** – deployed in Afghanistan.
- Also keep Sally Harper and the kids in your prayer.

Sunday Morning Class
Psalms

Wednesday Night Class
Character Studies: Rahab

FAITH THAT DOES NOT KNOW WHERE IT IS GOING

[Continued from last week's article]

Disobedience is the fruit of disbelief. What was the first thing that Satan ever attempted to get men and women to do?

Read **Gen 3:1-5** –

Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, Has God indeed said, 'You shall not eat of every tree of the garden?'" And the woman said to the serpent, We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden; but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God has said, 'You shall not eat it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die.' Then the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.

Satan wanted Eve to doubt God's word - to disbelieve the full truthfulness of God's commandment. Satan understood, and still does, that sinful conduct begins in disbelief. Adam & Eve could be led to sin if they were convinced that God did not speak the truth.

The effort to strengthen our faith or confidence in God's words is not just an intellectual pursuit. We must learn to live by faith, or we will fall through disobedience.

Heb 3:12-14 –

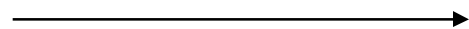
Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God; but exhort one another daily, while it is called "Today," lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. For we have become partakers of Christ if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast to the end...

Heb 3:18-19 –

To whom did He swear that they would not enter His rest, but to those who did not obey? So we see that they could not enter in because of unbelief.

He went out, not knowing where he was going. - Abraham was not motivated to leave Ur or Haran because it appeared to be the most logical thing to do. He did not have a well ordered plan of his own. He was simply following the directions of God – not knowing what was ahead.

Was his faith blind? In a sense, yes. He was not blind to the reality of God, or His character. He was taking a shot in the dark, knowing nothing. He knew God, and he believed Him. We have already studied about the intellectual aspect of faith –



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All are welcome to our worship
and study meetings!

*... singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs
with thankfulness in your hearts to God. Col 3:16*

Oh, love the LORD
All you His saints!
For the LORD preserves the faithful
And fully repays the proud person.
Be of good courage
And He shall strengthen your heart
All you who hope
In the LORD.

Psalm 31:23-24

A faithful man
will abound with blessings

Proverbs 28:20

When we behold
The wonders of creation
The flow'rs that bloom
The raindrops as they fall
The spacious skies
And life's perpetuation
We cannot doubt
That God controlled it all

Lord I believe,
Yes I believe
I cannot doubt
Or be deceived
The eye that sees
Each sparrow fall
His unseen hand
Is in it all

A.W. Dicus

[Faith That Does Not Know...]

faith is the evidence of things not seen. But God calls us to faith that is blind, in that we cannot know what lies ahead. We must trust in God to lead – As a child trusts in his father and mother to provide.

Prov 3:5-7 –

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths. Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord and depart from evil.

He was called to leave Ur behind. The call of God in **Gen. 12** was specific:

Genesis 12:1-3 –

Get out of your country, from your family and from your father's house, to a land that I will show you.

How difficult was this?

Have you ever thought about what it would be like to be enrolled in a witness protection program? How could you leave your family and never contact them again? It would be difficult to be convinced that I had to completely sever the relationship.

God does not call on me to sever all my relationships with the my family or people of the world. That not the point here. But God does call on me to separate myself from sin. The call of faith demands it.

The promises to Abraham are foundational to our own redemption. Even in the embryonic stages of God's plan there is a call for sanctification. To dwell with God requires a separation.

2 Cor 6:14-18 –

Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness? And what accord has Christ with Belial? Or what part has a believer with an unbeliever? And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: 'I will dwell in them and walk among them. I will be their God, and they shall be My people.' Therefore, come out from among them and be separate, says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean, and I will receive you. I will be a Father to you, and you shall be My sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty.

When the Abrahamic promises were being consummated in the coming of Christ and His kingdom, the preceding message from the voice of Jesus Himself was “repent for the kingdom of God is at hand.” (**Matt. 4:4**)

What is God calling you to leave behind? Are you willing to walk by faith?

Excerpted from www.southsidechurchofchrist.com, April 24, 2010

ELDERS: Dan Austin, Robyn E. Hamilton

DEACON: Matt Wells

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