

How to Get Started

Week 3 in our Where Am I Going Series

Luke 11:9-13

Summary:

This series is about hope. Hope is all about expectations, what will happen in the future. Hope is complex, because with Hope you have to wait for it while you work towards it. And often times the waiting is both harder and different than what you expected. During those times, we tend to get stuck, distracted, and we so easily get entangled in sin. Sin limits our faith, kills our hope, and deceives us into wandering off the path. God wants you to run the race well so that you can receive his reward. But to do that you have to get started. Today we will look at how to get started running the race well.

Today, God wants to help get you started, either for the first time, or to get started again. God wants to help you experience Life, Faith, Hope & Love.

Where are you at in your relationship with God?



God Wants You to Take a _____ but _____ Step.

Scripture Reading: Luke 11:9-13

God is Your _____.

“how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”

~Luke 11:13

God Wants You to Take a Simple but Significant Step

“For everyone who asks receives, the one who seeks finds; and the one who knocks the door will be opened” ~Luke 11:13

Three Metaphors about Moving Through life:

1. Life is a _____.

- “Ask and it will be given, seek and you will find, knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks will receive; he who seeks finds and to him who knocks the door will be opened. Which of you fathers, if your son asks for a fish, will give him snake instead? Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? If, you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven, give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!” ~Luke 11:9-13
- “Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it”. ~Matthew 7:13-14
- “For, as I have often told you before and now say again even with tears, many live as enemies of the cross of Christ. Their destiny is destruction; their god is their stomach, and their glory is their shame. Their mind is on earthly things.”
~Philippians 3:18-19

**2. Life is a _____ with a _____ for those who
run it the _____.**

- “Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last; but we do it to get a crown that will last forever”. ~1 Corinthians 9:24-25
- “I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth”. ~3 John verse 4
- “Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial, because when he has stood the test, he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him”. ~James 1:12
- “To him who overcomes, I will give the right to sit with me on my throne, just as I overcame and sat down with my Father on his throne. He who has ears let him hear what the Spirit says to the Churches”. ~Revelation 3:21-22

3. Life is a _____ in the wind.

- “Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. Instead, you ought to say, ‘If it is the Lord’s will, we will live and do this or that’. ~James 4:14-15
- “Man is like a breath; his days are like a passing shadow.” ~Psalm 144:4

To get started we need to Get _____.

- “But the Scripture declares that the whole world is a prisoner of sin, so that what was promised, being given through faith in Jesus Christ, might be given to those who believe. Before faith came, we were held prisoners of the law, locked up until faith should be revealed. So the law was put in charge to lead us to Christ that we might be justified by faith. Now that faith has come, we are no longer under the supervision of the law.” ~Galatians 3:22-25
- “Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us”. ~Hebrews 12:1

Three Parables about the Kingdom of God, Getting Started & Growing in Grace:

1. The Parable of the Sower, the Seed, the Soil, and the Obstacles to Growth (Matthew 13:1-23).
2. The Parable of the Weeds (Matthew 13:36-43).
3. The Parable of the Two Sons: Who truly is serving the King and His Kingdom (Matthew 21:28-32).

To Get started and to keep going, to persevere—we need _____.

- **Why this is the Power to persevere so important?**

“You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what he has promised.” ~Hebrews 10:36

- “His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness”. ~2 Peter 1:3

How do we get free from the sin that entangles us?

- **The Power of _____ sets you free from sin.**

- “Jesus replied, “I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave to sin. Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it. So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed”. ~John 8:34-36
- “He who does what is sinful is of the devil, because the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil’s work”.
~1 John 3:8

Two Stories:

Luke 5:17-36; Mark 2 Jesus Heals the body and soul of the Paralytic

Luke 7:36-50 Jesus forgives and honors the sinful woman.

- **The Power of _____ sets you free.**

- Repentance means to _____ and to turn _____ (Jeremiah 26:3; Mark 1:4).

“Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation and leaves no regret, but worldly sorrow brings death”. ~2 Corinthians 7:10

“I have declared to both Jews and Greeks that they must turn to God in repentance and have faith in our Lord Jesus”. ~Acts 20:21

“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” ~1 John 1:9

“After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. The time has come, he said. The kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news!” ~Mark 1:14-15

Two Stories:

Mark 10:46-52 Jesus heals Bartimaeus

Luke 19:1-10 Zacchaeus

- True repentance is marked by _____ and _____.

“Produce fruit in keeping with repentance”. ~Matthew 3:8

“This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples”. ~John 15:8

“Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Thus, by the their fruit you will recognize them”. ~Matthew 7:19

- **The Power of _____ Gets You Going through the act of _____.**

- “For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith and this not from yourselves. It is the gift of God so that no one can boast”. ~Ephesians 2:8-9
- Grace is God’s generosity, favor, blessings, and gifts poured out upon your life, even when you did nothing to deserve it, besides being loved by God.
- Faith is “being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see”. ~Hebrews 11:1
- “And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that He exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.” ~Hebrews 11:6
- “The word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart. That is, the word of faith we are proclaiming: That if you confess with your mouth, ‘Jesus is Lord’ and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved. As the Scripture says, ‘Anyone who trusts in him, will never be put to shame’. ~Romans 10:8-11

- “I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile. For in the gospel a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: “The righteous will live by faith”. ~Romans 1:16-17
- “I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. I do not set aside the grace of God, for if righteousness could be gained through the law, Christ died for nothing!” ~Galatians 2:20-21

Three Stories of Faith:

Matthew 9:18-22

Matthew 9:27-34

Matthew 8:5-13

2 Timothy 4:6-8

“For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time for my departure is near. ⁷I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. ⁸Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day—and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.”

Through the Power of Jesus, a lifestyle of repentance and the Gift of God’s grace received through faith—you will have power to get started and strength to persevere.

Blessing

“May the God who gives you endurance and encouragement give you a spirit of unity among yourselves as you follow Christ Jesus, so that with one heart and mouth you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ”. ~Romans 15:5