

June 21, 2015

Our God Remains the Same – In His Plan, Purpose and Presence

Hebrews 13:6-8

INTRODUCTION

A truly wise person tries to see life from God's point of view and chooses to live according to His wisdom. In life's journey we are all vulnerable to our own failures and the unfortunate circumstances that hit us head on. Is there a situation that doesn't make sense to you today? Whatever we encounter, God's point of view remains constant.

- 1. <u>Read</u> **Hebrews 13:6-8**. The writer of Hebrews is quoting Psalm 118:6. <u>Read</u> **Psalm 118:6-9**. Why is it better to trust in God rather than man? Share a personal experience where you know this to be heart knowledge, not just head knowledge. *Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever*. Why is it essential during a time of turmoil to know who Jesus is?
- 2. Pastor Dave shared some of his struggles with disillusionment over the church and Christ's providence. When have you struggled with similar feelings where you questioned God's plan and sovereignty? How does walking through periods of doubt and renewal keep your faith authentic?
- 3. God Remains the Same in His Plan Read Jeremiah 29:1-14. What are the four ways Pastor Dave shared to make it through tough times, based on this passage in Jeremiah? By staying focused on God's plan for our lives, we can experience His peace and comfort. How do you stay focused on God's plan for your life? Share a time you lost focus and the outcome. Share a time you remained focused and the outcome.
- 4. <u>Read</u> **John 13:1-17**. Jesus is more interested in towels than titles. Explain what this means in relation to Pastor Dave's point, *God Remains the Same in His Purpose*. Serving others is one way Pastor Dave experienced healing. What is it about serving others that helps us heal? Who in your life could benefit from your love and service? How can you reflect Christ's spirit in your own life?
- 5. God Remains the Same in His Presence Read Exodus 33:12-23. We must depend on God's presence as we continue with God's purpose and plan. God's presence provides comfort in times of despair, satisfaction when everything seems to be going against us, and strength to move forward. What does Psalm 16:11 add to this list of provisions from God's presence? It's important to share your story to reflect God's glory. When have you known God's presence during a time of turmoil?

CONCLUSION

The person who wishes to boast should only boast in what God has done. 1 Corinthians 1:25-31