

Back To Basics (Part 2)

Sunday, October 30, 2022
10:30 AM

Last week we began a new Series - Back To Basics based on a couple of scriptures in the book of Hosea

Hosea 6:1-3 (NLT)

1 "Come, let us return to the Lord.

2 ...so that we may live in his presence.

3 Oh, that we might know the Lord! Let us press on to know him.

Hosea 10:12

12 Sow righteousness for yourselves, reap the fruit of unfailing love, and break up your unplowed ground; for it is time to seek the Lord, until he comes and showers his righteousness on you.

We also considered the word of the Spirit to the Church in Ephesus found in Revelation Chapter 2

Revelation 2:4-5, 7

4 Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken the love you had at first. 5 Consider how far you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first.

7 Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who is victorious, I will give the right to eat from the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God.

Using the picture of Basic Training (Boot Camp) as an illustration, we will be getting back to the basics of what it means to follow Christ... we want to evaluate where we are at... to *return to the Lord*... no matter how little or how much we may have wandered from Him.... To truly *know Him and live in his Presence*. To *press on to know Him* even more... To... *Sow righteousness*... To *reap the fruit of unfailing love*... To *break up unplowed ground*... To *seek the Lord, until he comes*... To *do the things we did at first*.

Last week we said that The Basics Begin by understanding...It's All About Relationship! (We have been recruited to have a relationship with God by believing on His Son, Jesus Christ)

- IT'S A TRANSFORMING RELATIONSHIP
- IT'S A PASSIONATE RELATIONSHIP
- IT'S A PRIORITIZED RELATIONSHIP

Today, Boot Camp begins and we want to focus on the Basics of **Spiritual Training and Exercise**. It can be difficult, it can be challenging, there are days we don't want to do it... but it is for our benefit.

These are the basics because they are where we start

When we arrive at boot camp we have to start somewhere. We need trained, strengthened, conditioned, and prepared for battle. So they make us exercise, they teach us things we will need to know, they build our strength and endurance.

In our relationship with Christ we need to learn, we need to grow, we need to strengthen our faith

These are the basics because they are the foundation upon which we build

1 Corinthians 3:10-11 (NLT)

10 Because of God's grace to me, I have laid the foundation like an expert builder. Now others are building on it. But whoever is building on this foundation must be very careful. 11 For no one can lay any foundation other than the one we already have—Jesus Christ.

Matthew 7:24-27

24 "Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. 25 The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. 26 But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. 27 The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash."

These are the basics because they are essential to our continued life, health and growth

When a baby is born they need the basics of food, water and attention to survive. This doesn't change with time. Though we grow and learn to do things for ourselves, we still need the basics for life, health and growth.

The basics of Spiritual Training and Exercise come from...

1. The Bible...

- Feeds us

Matthew 4:4

4 Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'[a]"

- It is our training manual

Psalm 119:105

105 Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.

2 Timothy 3:15-16

15 and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. 16 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,

- It is our Weapon

Psalm 119:165

165 Great peace have those who love your law, and nothing can make them stumble.

Ephesians 6:17

17 Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

We need to...

- Read it

"The very practice of reading [the Bible] will have a purifying effect upon your mind and heart. Let nothing take the place of this daily exercise." - Billy Graham

1 Timothy 4:13

13 ..devote yourself to the..reading of Scripture...

- Study It

Psalm 119:130

130 The unfolding of your words gives light; it gives understanding to the simple.

- Meditate on It

Psalm 1:1-3

1 Blessed is the one...

2 ...whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and who meditates on his law day and night. 3 That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither— whatever they do prospers.

- Memorize It

Psalm 119:11

11 I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.

- Use It (Obey it, follow it, do what it says)

James 1:22

22 Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.

2. Prayer

In the military it is important to have good lines of communication. Without it things fall apart. Prayer is our line of communication with God. In simplest terms it is talking to God. But it is also listening. Without communication our relationship can't survive.

It Involves...

Matthew 6:9-13

9 “This, then, is how you should pray:

“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, (WORSHIP)

10 your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. (Learning God's will and how He wants us to apply it on earth)

Jeremiah 33:3

3 ‘Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know.’

11 Give us today our daily bread. (Provision of what we need - Need not want)

Luke 11:9-10

9 “So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. 10 For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.

12 And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. (Keeping our hearts free of sin and free of bitterness and unforgiveness)

Psalms 66:18

18 If I had cherished sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened;

Mark 11:25

25 And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive them, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins.”

26 But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.

13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one (Protection)

for yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.' " (Praise and exaltation of God)

3. Attending Church

CONCLUSION

None of this works if we don't do it and continue to do it.