

III. Faithfulness Brings Responsibility

“For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.” – 2 Cor. 5:10

Conclusion

Guidance Core Seminar

Week 1– Anxious or Restful?

Week 2 – The Sovereignty of God

Week 3 – The Will of God

Week 4 – Faithfulness

Week 5 – God’s Word, Prayer, and Counsel

Week 6 – Circumstances, Feelings, and Wisdom

Week 7 – Panel Q&A

Questions: e-mail Mark (mdkalenak@gmail.com) or Steven (steven_wall@comcast.net)

Core Seminars—Guidance **Class 4: Faithfulness**



Introduction

What goal do you have for the decisions you make?

I. What is faithfulness?

What does the Bible say is God’s will for your life?

God shows off his work through your work

“Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.” – Phil 2:12-13

Two ways your work shows off who God is

- The substance of your work
- The manner of your work

In the Bible, God's main goal in everything is to show off his glory. As a result, he's more interested in what he's doing *in* you than what you actually accomplish in a temporal sense. So your work matters mainly because of how it shows off his work in you.

The parable of the talents (Matthew 25:14-30)

²⁴ He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed, ²⁵ so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' ²⁶ But his master answered him, 'You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I scattered no seed? ²⁷ Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. ²⁸ So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. ²⁹ For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. ³⁰ And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

Why is the faithless servant thrown into hell?

Faithful = *stewarding all that God has given us to show off his goodness*

Faithfulness-focused decision-making

- Focus: the Last Day (Col. 3:2)
- Goal: God's Glory (1 Cor. 10:31)
- Extent: All of Life (Rom. 12:1)

II. Faithfulness Brings Freedom

Two types of decision-making

	Outcome-focused	Faithfulness-focused
Who do we trust?	Ourselves	God
Who gets credit?	Ourselves	God
Success is...	Clearly visible	Often invisible

Three freedoms from Faithfulness-Focused Decision-Making

#1: Freedom from perfectionism

#2: Freedom from unnecessary regret

#3: Freedom from pride