



Seizing Your Tomorrows – Message 2

Announcements

Women's Night // Tuesday, October 2 // Event starts at 7:00PM (Door open at 6:30PM) // Little Creek Campus. Ladies, invite your friends and join us for a dynamic Women's Night featuring speaker, singer, songwriter, and pastor DawnCheré Wilkerson of VOUS Church in Miami.

Warm-up

The Broadway hit musical, *Annie*, produced one of the most popular songs of the twentieth century-- *Tomorrow*. Released in 1977, it won numerous awards and was widely performed by many artists. The first lines of the lyrics are as follows: "The sun'll come out, tomorrow. Bet your bottom dollar that tomorrow, there'll be sun!" Why do you think this song was such a spectacular hit? What does its success say about the way we think about "tomorrow"?

Word and Application

Last week, our first message in the Joshua series was about **intimidation** and how it is the enemy of our destiny. We learned that intimidation tries to get us to back down and back off, but God wants us to possess our destiny. He helps us by partnering with us to fight the battles that come our way, and we are assured that He is with us on the journey. This week, we learned how we can seize our tomorrows by overcoming **disappointment** so that we can walk into the future with confidence.

Two Responses to Disappointment--Give up or Go up

The starting point to moving into tomorrow is acknowledging that the past is dead.

Read Philippians 3:12-14.

What was the one thing that Paul did in order to "go up"? It is difficult to imagine what would have happened if Paul had decided to give up instead of go up. Maybe you've experienced the results of a "give up" decision in your life. Why is it crucial to acknowledge that the past is dead? God promises to open up new possibilities for us. The question we all need to ask ourselves is, "Will our tomorrows unfold or fold up due to our disappointments?"

Three Keys to Living Strong and Courageous

1. Lay hold of God's promise.

Read Joshua 1:6 and Hebrews 6:18.

How does being certain of and trusting in God's character give us the confidence to walk into tomorrow? Why is it important to remember that we don't see the whole future but God does? What response should we have when we don't understand our circumstances? What promises are you believing God for now in order to see them fulfilled tomorrow?

2. Lay hold of God's pattern.

Read Joshua 1:7 & 8.

The word *strong* means to strengthen, be firm, prevail, be resolute. The word *courageous* means to be brave, bold, alert, solid. To *prosper* is to know what to do in order to move forward and to have *success* depends on our obedience. Faith is not so much the power to acquire as it is the power to obey. Why is the key to successful living found by meditating on the Word of God? How are we strengthened by reading God's Word?

3. Lay hold of His purpose.

Read Joshua 1:10, 11.

God tells Joshua how to help the leaders so that the leaders can help the people inherit their divine destiny. We are sail lifters. When we help others, we are fulfilling our purpose. As we help others achieve their purpose, we are actually achieving our purpose. What is your purpose and how has God used your purpose to help others? What dreams and goals do you have for your tomorrows as it concerns helping others?

Life Challenge

We have two responses when disappointment comes our way. We can either *give up* or *go up*. Determine to go up so that you can walk confidently into your God-given destiny. Identify now what you will do when disappointment comes. Let us, as Joshua and Paul did, press onward to lay hold of His promise, His pattern, and His purpose for our life.

Prayer

We thank you Father that You know all of our tomorrows and can be trusted with our future. When disappointment comes, we praise You that nothing can separate us from your love (Romans 8:37-39). We praise You for the power and promises of Your Word. Your Word is a lamp to our feet and a light unto our path (Psalm 119:105). We pray that You would continue to make our purpose known to us so that we can help others for Your glory. Pray for the specific needs of your small group.