

20/20

DISCOVERING GOD'S VISION FOR MY LIFE

Give Me Bold Faith

Pastor Doug Heisel – March 3, 2019

Hebrews 11:6 – 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.

Matthew 9:29 – Then Jesus touched their eyes and said, "According to your faith let it be done to you."

Matthew 25:14-30 – Again, the Kingdom of Heaven can be illustrated by the story of a man going on a long trip. He called together his servants and entrusted his money to them while he was gone. He gave five bags of silver to one, two bags of silver to another, and one bag of silver to the last—dividing it in proportion to their abilities. He then left on his trip. The servant who received the five bags of silver began to invest the money and earned five more. The servant with two bags of silver also went to work and earned two more. But the servant who received the one bag of silver dug a hole in the ground and hid the master's money.

After a long time their master returned from his trip and called them to give an account of how they had used his money.

The servant to whom he had entrusted the five bags of silver came forward with five more and said, 'Master, you gave me five bags of silver to invest, and I have earned five more.' The master was full of praise. 'Well done, my good and faithful servant. You have been faithful in handling this small amount, so now I will give you many more responsibilities. Let's celebrate together!' The servant who had received the two bags of silver came forward and said, 'Master, you gave me two bags of silver to invest, and I have earned two more.' The master said, 'Well done, my good and faithful servant. You have been faithful in handling this small amount, so now I will give you many more responsibilities. Let's celebrate together!'

Then the servant with the one bag of silver came and said, 'Master, I knew you were a harsh man, harvesting crops you didn't plant and gathering crops you didn't cultivate. I was afraid I would lose your money, so I hid it in the earth. Look, here is your money back.' But the master replied, 'You wicked and lazy servant! If you knew I harvested crops I didn't plant and gathered crops I didn't cultivate, why didn't you deposit my money in the bank? At least I could have gotten some interest on it.'

Then he ordered, 'Take the money from this servant, and give it to the one with the ten bags of silver. To those who use well what they are given, even more will be given, and they will have an abundance. But from those who do nothing, even what little they have will be taken away. Now throw this useless servant into outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

**So much of what God has for you,
will only be reached when you let bold faith
stretch you beyond current COMFORT ZONES.**

The LORD had said to Abram, "Go from your country, your people and your father's household to the land I will show you. "I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you." Genesis 12:1-3

So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he set out from Harran. Genesis 12:4

1. Where has God already BLESSED me, and what am I DOING as a result of it?
2. What COMFORT ZONE is God prompting me to trust Him with?
3. Will I give EXTRA PRAYER over the next 14 DAYS, to let God stir up more bold faith in my heart – for me, my family, and the plans God has for our church – and my part in that!

2 Corinthians 9:8

And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that
in all things, at all times, having all that you need,
you will abound in every good work.

Life Group Discussion & Questions

BREAKING THE ICE: If you haven't yet done it, reflect back on 2018. Share a few things you are grateful for from the past year. As an alternative to that, share a "win" from the past week or two.

DIGGING IN: Read Matthew 25:14-30 and Genesis 12:1-4

1. What "comfort zones" do you think the 3rd man in Jesus' parable was holding onto? What are some "comfort zones" people have today, that could keep them from doing God's will or exercising bold faith?
2. Abram also had "comfort zones" to overcome. What do you think some of them could have been?
3. Review and discuss the first two questions from inside these notes, and then take some time to pray about the bold faith God wants to stir up in you and your group ... and our church.

BRINGING IT HOME: Will you commit some time, every day over the next 14-days, to pray about how God wants to stretch us and use us, even more, in the year ahead.