A Prayer Workshop -- *Morning Edition*

Discovering and Applying Biblical Prayer Principles from Hebrews 11

**Session Eleven: The Faith of Decision: Praying Over Difficult Choices**

**Hebrews 11:24-28**

(ESV) ***24By faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh’s daughter, 25choosing rather to be mistreated with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. 26He considered the reproach of Christ greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking to the reward. 27 By faith he left Egypt, not being afraid of the anger of the king, for he endured as seeing him who is invisible. 28By faith he kept the Passover and sprinkled the blood, so that the Destroyer of the firstborn might not touch them.***

There is a faith born in crisis, but most faith is garden variety lifestyle. The former is a snapshot caught at a moment in time, the latter a video of a life. Moses’ decision to lead Israel across the Red Sea was incubated in choices he had made to identify with God’s covenant decades before. All faith is based upon God’s covenant promises. Where are your faith choices taking you?

**1. We pray out of decisions to identify with God’s people.**

Moses followed his parents’ choices, not because of culture or race but because of God’s covenant. Like Abraham, Moses left the comforts of the familiar because God had made promises of infinite value.

Scriptures: Genesis 12:1-3; Jeremiah 31:31-34; Luke 22:20

Prayer prompts: Father, grace us to be one with your people.

Father, help us see ourselves as children of the Covenant.

Father, give us eyes to see your spiritual realities.

**2. We pray out of decisions to forsake temporal pleasures for eternal joys.**

Moses refused to buy into the world’s deceptive bargain to trade God’s approval for theirs. In other words, being “cool,” accepted, and having the approval of his friends was not the driving force in his life. Delighting in God was.

Scriptures: 1 John 2:15-17; John 15:18-21

Prayer prompts: Father, grant us courage to reject all that excludes you.

Father, help us look to you alone for approval.

Father, help us to lay up treasure in heaven, not earth.

**3. We pray out of courage born of the power and grace of God.**

We will live the Christ life only if we draw from His power and grace. The Exodus was a demonstration of God’s power, Passover a demonstration of His grace in judgment. Is your life being transformed by God’s Spirit and Word?

Scriptures: 1 Peter 1:3-9; John 3:1-10

Prayer prompts: Father, help us to live out the life you placed within us.

Father, help us cling wholly to your grace.

Father, help us rely upon your Resurrection power.

Let’s pray. . . A Model Prayer Choosing God Above all Things Psalm 16 (ESV)

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| 1Preserve me, O God, for in you I take refuge.  2I say to the Lord, “You are my Lord;  I have no good apart from you.”  3As for the saints in the land, they are the excellent ones, in whom is all my delight.  4The sorrows of those who run after another god  shall multiply; their drink offerings of blood I  will not pour out or take their names on my lips.  5The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup;  you hold my lot.  6The lines have fallen for me in pleasant places;  indeed, I have a beautiful inheritance. | 7I bless the Lord who gives me counsel;  in the night also my heart instructs me.  8I have set the Lord always before me;  because he is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken. 9 Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices; my flesh also dwells secure.  10For you will not abandon my soul to Sheol, or let your holy one see corruption.  11You make known to me the path of life;  in your presence there is fullness of joy;  at your right hand are pleasures  forevermore. |