

Sermon Notes

Things That Matter: Beautiful Produce in an Age of Crop Failure

#8 – “On Faithfulness”

I. Introduction

A. Faithfulness and God

1. God is all-together faithful.
2. More than sixty references in the Bible to God’s faithfulness
3. Faithfulness is closely related to lovingkindness.
 - a. Used more than thirty times of God
4. We are dependent upon God

I Corinthians 1:8-9; 10:13; I Thessalonians 5:23-24;
I John 1:9; I Peter 4:19; Hebrews 10:23
5. Note the Psalms and Jeremiah

Psalm 89:1-2; Lamentations 3:21-23, 31-32
6. Faithfulness should be high on our value system
 - a. Key questions
 - b. Proverbs 20:6
7. Synonyms for faithfulness
d _____, r _____, t _____, l _____

II. Consider the Life of Daniel and of Absalom

A. Daniel – 6:1-4

1. “No ground for accusation.”
2. No corruption or negligence

B. Absalom – II Samuel 15:1-6

III. Three aspects of faithfulness

A. Absolute honesty

1. Psalm 12:1-2, Lev. 19:11
2. Things to watch out for:
 - a. Exaggeration
 - b. Silence
 - c. distortion
3. “Your word is your bond.”

B. Dependability

1. Reliability – Proverbs 10:26
2. Keeping your word no matter what
3. Psalm 15:1-4

C. Loyalty

1. Noting Absalom’s life once again.
2. Note distinction between loyalty and blind loyalty.
 - a. Jerry Bridges

IV. Closing thoughts

A. Key questions for you to consider

1. Do you seek to be scrupulously honest?
2. Can others depend on you when it is costly?
3. Will you stick by your friend when he is in difficulty?
4. Will you confront him when he is wrong?

B. Jesus’ assent

1. Revelation 2:10
2. Matthew 25:21