

THE BIG IDEA: If God passed through, we'll pass through, too

The Take-Off

This morning's message is going to be a bit different

Don't think of it as a message or sermon as much as a word

Literally, it's one word that God settled in my soul about 3 weeks ago. I wasn't sure if it was supposed to be a sermon series or one message, but I made a note of the word and started praying over it.

The word is THROUGH.

Now, Proverbs 15:23 says that a word spoken in due season is good, and as our church has walked through one of if not the hardest week our body has ever experienced, the timing of that word THROUGH started making a lot more sense. So if you'll give me some freedom, I'm going to share it with you how God shared it with me.

I'm not worried about it being the "best" sermon I've ever preached, but I am committed to obediently sharing what the Holy Spirit dropped into my soul about the word THROUGH.

Take a look at this image

[IMAGE Passing Through]

This is the image that came to my mind along with the thought that we pass through, we don't live there

We pass cities all the time when we're traveling - we've got friends who passed the city of "Odor" once!!

Put we aren't called to live in this city, we're called to pass through

1. Suspended faith

- a. Over the last few months we've talked a lot about the remix - meeting in the middle expecting something supernatural
- b. We've talked about Isaiah 43:18 and the new thing that God is doing
- c. But God doesn't call us to camp in the middle or to settle there
- d. The middle is something we pass through on the way to the new thing God's is calling us to
- e. If we're going to pass through, we're going to need a lot of what I call suspended faith
- f. [ILL Trapeze artist]
- g. Trust me, it's way easier to hold on to what we know or even to rush toward what we think is next
- h. But to stay in the middle not sure of anything is hard
- i. God knew that, which is why he was the first one to pass through

2. 2 halves but only 1 walker

- a. Something pretty amazing happened in Genesis 15
- b. Abraham (at this point, he's still called Abram) is in between trapeze bars and God is reminding him of what's coming as he is suspended in between now and next
- c. In v. 8, Abraham asks how he can be sure the promises will come true
- d. God had Abram cut animals in half and as Abram fell asleep, God came down in the form of fire and passed THROUGH the halves
- e. But God was the only one who passed THROUGH and that made this a unilateral covenant, also known as an unconditional covenant
- f. In other words, it was a covenant between 2 but only 1 had the responsibility to make it happen
- g. That one is God
- h. Because God was the only one who walked through the cut animals, it's on him to bring the covenant about
- i. So don't you know that every time after that, whenever the people of God found themselves "in the middle" they would remember that God had passed THROUGH and that they could trust him to make sure they would pass THROUGH, too

3. If God passed through, we'll pass through, too

- a. Too many people stop in between now and next
- b. But we're not called to live there, we're called to pass through
- c. The unconditional promise that God made with Abraham when God passed through is a promise to us, too
- d. Galatians 3:7 / we're part of the family of Abraham
- e. Remember, **if God passed through, we'll pass through, too**

- f. I don't know what your THROUGH is, but whatever it is, you're not meant to stay there
- g. Psalm 23:4 / THROUGH the darkest valleys
- h. Isaiah 43:2 / THROUGH the waters and the fire
- i. Psalm 78:13 / THROUGH the sea on dry land

The Landing

Here's what this means: we can't take the easy way out - the way of comfort or the known

If God calls us to pass THROUGH (and he does) then that means the new thing is on the other side

So we keep walking THROUGH - we keep trusting even with suspended faith

Deuteronomy 31:6 / Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread, for it is the Lord your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you.

If He passed through, we'll pass through, too.

Let's pray