

Ready? Set?

Lesson One

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We have a **NEW** building to meet in here at the Waynesville congregation!

It has been planned for several years, and after many discussions, decisions, actions, work, and generosity its been completed!

Now what? – *Rest? Relax?*

Plans have been made and realized. Funds have been saved and spent. Our prayers, hopes, and dreams have been realized for this physical building. But this is **NOT** a stopping point. It is only the beginning of another phase of work. We need to focus on NEXT!

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Design and specifics were made for the tabernacle

Care and planning were made for the tabernacle

- It was to be the focal point for Israel's worship to God (centrally located, a PLACE to meet)

Leviticus 9:5-6 – “*So they brought what Moses commanded before the tabernacle of meeting. And all the congregation drew near and stood before the Lord. Then Moses said, “This is the thing which the Lord commanded you to do, and the glory of the Lord will appear to you.”*”

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Leviticus 9:23-24 – “*And Moses and Aaron went into the tabernacle of meeting, and came out and blessed the people. Then the glory of the Lord appeared to all the people, and fire came out from before the Lord and consumed the burnt offering and the fat on the altar. When all the people saw it, they shouted and fell on their faces.”*

It was clear, God approved of a meeting place for His people.

Other places of worship: mountain, alter, city, and temple.

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David Prepares to build the temple – 1 Chronicles 22

- Several years ago, we prepared to build this building.

David's offerings for the temple work – 1 Chronicles 29

- People follow suit
- The members of Waynesville have given offerings of time and money in the same way as the Jews then

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Solomon builds the temple per David's plans – 2 Chronicles 3

- Builds after requesting wisdom
- The members of Waynesville requested wisdom in the planning, and building here!
- To be ready!

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Temple furnished – 2 Chronicles 4

The Ark brought – 2 Chronicles 5

Completion of the work – 2 Chronicles 6

Solomon dedicates the temple – 2 Chronicles 7

The temple was a grander version of the tabernacle, but they way God certified it was the same...

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2 Chronicles 7:1 – “When Solomon had finished praying, fire came down from heaven and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices; and the glory of the Lord filled the temple. And the priests could not enter the house of the Lord, because the glory of the Lord had filled the Lord’s house. When all the children of Israel saw how the fire came down, and the glory of the Lord on the temple, they bowed their faces to the ground on the pavement, and worshipped and praised the Lord, saying: “For He is good, for His mercy endures forever.”

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Israel and Israel's king had the place to worship God at, it was a marvel, and it was completed. Solomon became the wisest of kings, he became wealthy, but he lost track of the true focus: God

From Solomon's sinfulness, the people became sinful, and the troubles in Israel grew worse until the kingdom split and would eventually end the kingdom of Israel and the temple would be destroyed multiple times.

So are we ready for the future here? Our direction, focus, actions, and happiness are in our hands...

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Ready? – Our work is done on this new building. How do we know it was ready to use before we moved?

- Inspections – God inspects the things He does too!

Genesis 1:4 – “*And God saw the light, that it was good; and God divided the light from the darkness.*”

Genesis 1:10 – “*And God called the dry land Earth, and the gathering together of the waters He called Seas. And God saw that it was good.*”

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Genesis 1:12 – “*And the earth brought forth grass, the herb that yields seed according to its kind, and the tree that yields fruit, whose seed is in itself according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.”*

Genesis 1:18 – “*and to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good.”*

Genesis 1:21 – “*So God created great sea creatures and every living thing that moves, with which the waters abounded, according to their kind, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.”*

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Genesis 1:25 – “*And God made the beast of the earth according to its kind, cattle according to its kind, and everything that creeps on the earth according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.”*

Genesis 1:31 – “*Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good. So the evening and the morning were the sixth day.”*

To meet an inspection, you must follow **ALL** the instructions.

Not good? Fix or start over.

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God found favor in Noah and God asked him for some serious effort.

- How did he do?

Genesis 6:22 – “*Thus Noah did; according to all that God commanded him, so he did.”*

We often take out the importance of the place, as the church building is nothing to be sacred. Christians are God’s temple of the New Testament, but a place still has significance as our base (see *Revelation – the church in...*).

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The place for worship to God has typically been a central location for His people to meet for worship.

Exodus 25:8-10 – *“And let them make Me a sanctuary, that I may dwell among them. According to all that I show you, that is, the pattern of the tabernacle and the pattern of all its furnishings, just so you shall make it. And they shall make an ark of acacia wood; two and a half cubits shall be its length, a cubit and a half its width, and a cubit and a half its height.”*

- Being “ready” requires planning and action

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Places can be a focus for good or ill...

Genesis 11:1-4 – “Now the whole earth had one language and one speech. And it came to pass, as they journeyed from the east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar, and they dwelt there. Then they said to one another, “Come, let us make bricks and bake them thoroughly.” They had brick for stone, and they had asphalt for mortar. And they said, “Come, let us build ourselves a city, and a tower whose top is in the heavens; let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth.”

- How did that work out? What was their focus?

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Jerusalem was a place of focus from David into the New Testament even today.

Joel 3:20 – “*But Judah shall abide forever, and Jerusalem from generation to generation.*”

While our new building will certainly not last forever, or be as important to God’s people as Jerusalem was, it is our base for worship with brothers and sisters to God. The building does not make worship, but worship to God takes place at the building. It is our home and meeting place. Our center for everything spiritual as a location, and it is where the world will find us.

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Acts 2:44 – “Now all who believed were together, and had all things in common”

Hebrews 10:24-25 – “And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.”

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(Ready? Set?)

2 Timothy 4:2 – “*Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching.”*

Titus 3:1 – “*Remind them to be subject to rulers and authorities, to obey, to be ready for every good work”*

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(“Stand”)

Romans 11:20 – *“Well said. Because of unbelief they were broken off, and you stand by faith. Do not be haughty, but fear.”*

1 Corinthians 10:11 – *“Now all these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages have come.”*

1 Corinthians 15:1 – *“Moreover, brethren, I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand”*

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1 Corinthians 16:13 – “Watch, stand fast in the faith, be brave, be strong.”

Galatians 5:1 – “Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage.”

Ephesians 6:13 – “Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.”

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Philippians 1:27 – “Only let your conduct be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of your affairs, that you stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel”

2 Thessalonians 2:15 – “Therefore, brethren, stand fast and hold the traditions which you were taught, whether by word or our epistle.”

James 5:9 – “Do not grumble against one another, brethren, lest you be condemned. Behold, the Judge is standing at the door!”

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What type of ground is the church at Waynesville?

Matthew 13:18-21 – *“Therefore hear the parable of the sower: When anyone hears the word of the kingdom, and does not understand it, then the wicked one comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart. This is he who received seed by the wayside. But he who received the seed on stony places, this is he who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet he has no root in himself, but endures only for a while. For when tribulation or persecution arises because of the word, immediately he stumbles.”*

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What type of ground is the church at Waynesville?

Matthew 13:22-23 – “Now he who received seed among the thorns is he who hears the word, and the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and he becomes unfruitful. But he who received seed on the good ground is he who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and produces: some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.”

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(“Steadfast”)

Acts 2:42 – “And they continued steadfastly in the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.”

Romans 12:9-13 – “Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good. Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another; not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer; distributing to the needs of the saints, given to hospitality.”

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Romans 12:14-21 – “Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep. Be of the same mind toward one another. Do not set your mind on high things, but associate with the humble. Do not be wise in your own opinion. Repay no one evil for evil. Have regard for good things in the sight of all men. If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men. Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, “Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,” says the Lord. Therefore if your enemy is hungry, feed him; If he is thirsty, give him a drink; For in so doing you will heap coals of fire on his head.” Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.”

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(Condemnation)

Matthew 10:27-28 – “*Whatever I tell you in the dark, speak in the light; and what you hear in the ear, preach on the housetops. And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.*”

Revelation 20:15 – “*And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.*”

1 Peter 4:7 – “*But the end of all things is at hand; therefore be serious and watchful in your prayers.*”

Ready? Set?

Go!

Abe Martin – Lesson Two