

# Let's pray.

We come into Your presence with thanksgiving, and into Your courts with praise. How precious Thou art; how wonderful is Your love for us, Father, beyond our understanding. Your heart beats as our heart beats; the very hairs of our heads are numbered; You know every thought that we think. You care about us; You knew, even before the foundation of the earth, all the needs that we would have.

We come this morning, Father, some of us out of breath, and kind of preoccupied with things that took place on the way to church, or things that have taken place in the week just past and somehow we need to take a deep breath, stop, and just focus the lens of our heart on the nature of God, who You are, and bow before You in worship.

You are the Creator God, the great I Am. The One who spoke and the worlds were formed, the One who holds it together even today by the very breath of Your power; the One who ever lives to make intercession for us; the omnipotent One, who can but speak and the worlds crumble; the omniscient One, who knows the very beats of our heart; the gracious One, who enables us in Christ to actually be able to live the Spirit-filled life; and now we come to You.

We acknowledge, Father, that only You can be our teacher if we are to learn truth, and only Your word can be our guide, and our authority. So that's our prayer,

In Jesus name,

Amen.

All God was looking for was one faithful man. The world had degenerated into a cesspool of immorality, greed and rebellion. Mankind was preoccupied with evil. So evil was the heart of man that God repented that He had made man. His incredible patience ran its course and His heart turned towards His attribute of righteousness, and He became a God of judgment. All mankind would be destroyed as the windows of heaven were opened and a torrential flood of waters literally absorbed the earth and all who

were in it, both man and beast. But "Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord". As the "eyes of the Lord ran to and fro throughout the whole earth to find a man whose heart was faithful to Him", His eyes fell upon a man named Noah. In Genesis 6 we read of God's assessment of that one man:

Noah was a just man and perfect in his generations, and Noah walked with God. (Genesis 6:9b)

What a commendation! If you could have anything said of you at journey's end, wouldn't it be just that? To have God look at you and say: "There is a man; there is a woman who is just, perfect in their generation. He or she walked with Me."

Just what does that mean? What is God saying about Noah? And how can we be sure that God can say the same thing of us? God's first commendation of Noah was that Noah was just. The word "just" used here simply means righteous. God saw Noah as a righteous man. In other words, Noah was seen by God as in right standing with Himself. Another way of putting it was that Noah was justified or made righteous by God. The basis of Noah's being just was the opposite of Cain's. He came to God on God's terms, by faith. In order to understand this better, we can read Hebrews 11:

> By faith Enoch (Noah's great-grandfather) was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God.

> But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that He is, [by faith] and [likewise believe] that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him. (Hebrews 11:5,6)

If we were to paraphrase verse six, we could say it this way: There is only one way to be acceptable to God. It is to come to Him by faith, believing. One must believe that He is who He says He is and that His Word is absolutely reliable. With this backdrop we can go on to read verse seven in the same manner as Enoch we read of Noah:

> By faith Noah, being warned by God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith. (Hebrews 11:7)

Noah became justified. Paraphrased it says this: Like Enoch, Noah came to God by faith. God told him of impending judgment. He had no visible proof, nevertheless, in awe of God, Noah obeyed

perfectly. He built the ark and saved his family. By his testimony of faith, the world stood condemned and Noah was declared to be just in the sight of God. Noah was justified by faith. Faith is "confidence without proof". It is coming to God on God's terms with only His Word as your basis of hope. It is walking with God wherever He leads with no physical, visible, tangible guarantee. Noah was a man of faith. His faith was unquestioning, uncompromising, and unwavering. He considered the scope of the task God called him to do and said, "Yes, sir."

First, take a look at the difficulty of it. How we thrive on simple tasks. This was a mass of complex plans, a ship greater than any corporation built in the next three thousand years. Then, take a look at the length of time it took Noah to compete the task. It took him at least 120 years. How we thrive today on short-term projects. Look at the loneliness of the task. No one else but his family even understood what he was doing. How we thrive on group responsibilities. Look at the improbability of the task. He was to build a ship on dry land without rain for a zoo full of animals because someone said a flood was coming. *But that someone was God.* 

Only God approved of Noah. The whole world thought he was crazy. If ever a man was a man of faith, Noah was. God said it Himself. We will look at the quality of faith in depth in the lesson on Abraham. In this lesson, let's look at what God had to say about Noah and about his being perfect in his generation.

The word *perfect* used here is the Hebrew word, *tamim*, meaning whole or complete. It is used of God in Psalm 18:30:

As for God, His way is perfect [tamim]: (Psalm 18:30a)

But the next verse says:

It is God that girded me with strength, and maketh my way perfect [tamim]. (Psalm 18:32)

It means that God who is completely whole, who is self-contained righteousness, can reflect that same completeness of holy behavior in you and in me. The Psalmist goes on to explain what it means to walk a perfect way. In the next verse the Psalmist says:

> He maketh my feet like hinds' feet, and setteth me upon my high places. (Psalm 18:33)

The spiritual sure-footedness of a deer on a mountainside is a description of the man who walks perfectly in the way.

He teacheth my hands to war, so that a bow of steel is broken by mine arm. (Psalm 18:34)

Inconceivable strength in spiritual warfare is another symbol of this man. We call it *courage*. Then the Scripture goes on to show us in Psalm 101 that the perfect man affects the lives of those around him.

> I will behave myself wisely in a perfect way. O when wilt thou come unto me? I will walk within my house with a perfect heart. (Psalm 101:2)

Then he describes a man who is faithful, who perseveres and ministers to his family. Then it adds that he looks for the same type of man to employ.

...he that walketh in a perfect way, he shall serve Me.

(Psalm 18:34)

That is what God was saying about Noah, that he was perfect in his generation. Now the word *generation* literally means "those who pass by." So God is saying that those who pass by Noah can see his completeness of character. He is what he claims to be because God is in control of his life. How beautiful it would be if God could say that of us.

In the last lesson we noted two or three elements of Noah's character that made him appear to be perfect in his generation. We will skim through these quickly because we want to major on one basic quality. The first quality was courage. Courage defined is "the absence of fear in the face of adversity". Another definition could be "the rejection of fear in the face of adversity". Few men in Scripture demonstrated more courage than Noah. We will look in depth at the quality of courage in a future lesson on David.

<u>Another quality was perseverance</u>. Perseverance defined is "continuing steadfastly until you finish the job". Nehemiah will more fully expose this quality.

Noah could get an "A" on his grade card in work attitudes, preparedness, responsibility, and a servant-heart. He was without fault among his contemporaries. The New Testament corresponding word would be "blameless".

This lesson will concentrate on the third major aspect of Noah's character and that is in his personal relationship with God. Here Noah gets an "A plus". The Scripture says *Noah walked with God.* It is the same statement the Scripture made about his

great-grandfather, Enoch. Enoch walked with God. I'm not sure many men walk with God. There are many who walk *after God*. Some walk *before God*. Still others walk with *an eye to God*. I'm not sure of many of us today who walk with God. To walk with God means unbroken fellowship, uncompromised priorities, and unquestioning responsiveness. I think it can be best defined by the presence of two basic qualities—total availability and perfect obedience. We will look at these two qualities in the remainder of this lesson.

The first prerequisite for walking with God is *availability*. Availability defined is "the act of maintaining a state of readiness to do the will of God." That simply means that God never has to go looking for you. You are always at the door of His tent. It means God never has to shout to get your attention because He never lost it. We read in verse 13 - *God said to Noah*. It was a matter of fact statement to a best friend. It was as if God, having never for one second lost Noah's attention, simply turned to him to continue their conversation. That is availability. God bared His heart to Noah. He does that to men and women who walk with Him. There are some characteristics of this kind of life.

<u>1- Men and women who walk with God know the mind of God.</u> God said to Noah, "I'm sorry I ever made man. Look at what a mess man has made on the earth. It is a discouraging thing to see your creation behave like that." God didn't just tell Noah what He was going to do, God told Noah why. God does that to men who walk with Him.

2- The man or woman who walks with God knows the plan of God. "Noah, here's what we are going to do," God said, "Here's My part. I'm going to send a flood. I'm going to unleash a very tiny fraction of My power. It is going to destroy the earth and all mankind and all of the creatures therein. But this is your part, Noah; you are to build an ark. I want you to preach repentance. I want you to bring your family and the animals, two of each kind. Then this is My final part. I am going to save you, your family, and your animals." Noah knew the plan of God because he walked with God.

<u>3- The man or woman who walks with God knows the timing of</u> <u>God.</u> Noah knew when to build, when to preach, when to rest, when to enter, when to send the raven, when to send the dove, when to disembark, and when to worship. Men who walk with God know

the mind of God, the plan of God, and the timing of God. Walking with God means availability. It means spending time, much time in His presence. To walk with someone, you never leave their side. You never go in the opposite direction. You are always on call at a moment's notice. Suppose there were two sons in a family and you wanted to buy a gift for that father. One son lived 2,000 miles away and only came home on Easter and Christmas and called once a month or so. The other son lived in the same town as the father. They lived next door to each other. They went fishing and shopping together. They ate together often. Who would you go to if you wanted to know what pleased the heart of that father? Would you pick the son who lived far away or the son who walked with him every day? The principle is very clear. You would pick the son who walked with the father every day.

God is the perfect portrait of availability. Have you ever called to Him that He didn't answer? Have you ever called and He wasn't home? Have you ever needed Him when He didn't have time? Has He ever been out to lunch? On vacation? Tied up in a conference when your heart was broken or your world was crumbling beneath you? The kind of availability God wants of us is the same kind He offers to us. It is total, unbroken readiness. It is called "abiding". To be that available to God, you can't have what Mark calls "the cares of this world or the deceitfulness of riches or the lust of other things" that, entering in, choke the Word and make you unavailable to God."

Noah walked with God. He was available to God. The jeers and the taunts of the world didn't drive him to conformity but to transformation. I believe God just bent down and whispered in Noah's ear. Unlike Jonah, Noah didn't run and require a circumstantial catastrophe to get his attention. God whispered and Noah heard Him because he was listening. Noah answered, "Yes, Sir." That is the second quality essential to walking with God. You are available because you hear His commands but the crux of it all is, do you obey? Do you obey immediately and without argument, without giving alternatives, without side trips or delays? Do you just say, "Yes, Lord," then proceed to do precisely what He told you to do? That is what it means to walk with God. The object of Christianity is to be conformed to His image. That means perfect obedience. That is what your image does in a mirror; it does what you do. It perfectly obeys.

Jesus was our perfect example. Never once did He balk at

the least or the greatest of the Father's instructions. He said, "I always do those things that please the Father. I have not come to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent me." Later he told the disciples, "As the Father has sent Me, I also send you." Let's not over-complicate Noah's success. Let's just boil it down to this. He was totally available and perfectly obedient.

Now all the benefits of being God's child are wrapped up in obedience. That is why the parent-child relationship is so important. That is why the book of Proverbs tells us again and again that the parent represents God and is to teach the child to obey. This is taught through instruction when possible, through example when possible, and through discipline when necessary. The parent is teaching the world that man's obedience to his heavenly Father is not a choice, but a necessity. The child doesn't always need to know why. Sometimes it is sufficient just to respond to your child, "Do it, dear, just because I said so." The child who learns to obey his parents unquestioningly will know instinctively how to obey the will of God.

The Scriptures are a handbook of promises from God. Some are conditional: if we do this, God will do that. Some are unconditional. Here is where we miss the mark. Even most of the unconditional promises carry varying degrees of blessing proportionate to the obedience of the believer, and that obedience is not just relative to the area of life in question. For instance, your inability to discern the will of God in your job may not be the result of disobedience where your job is concerned. It may be disobedience where your family is concerned; but until that area of disobedience is corrected, you lack the discernment and the power to do the will of God anywhere.

Obedience to the known will of God results in at least nine of life's most valuable blessings. Here are the benefits of obedience to God.

<u>The first is that you can only learn the unknown will of God as</u> you obey the known will of God.

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom: A good understanding have all they that do his commandments: ...

(Psalm 111:10)

Paraphrased, it says you respect God and do what He says and you will know the will of God.

At the commandment of the LORD they rested in the tents, and

at the commandment of the LORD, they journeyed: they kept the charge of the LORD, at the commandment of the LORD by the hand of Moses. (Numbers 9:23)

In other words, as they obeyed what they were told, God gave them new light to go the next step. Let's assume you have a major decision to make about your job or your ministry or your family. You seem to lack the clarity of judgment to know the will of God. Ask yourself this question: "Where am I in my life in known disobedience to the will of God?" You may say, "I don't know what the will of God is. How can I be in disobedience?" Wrong. You know the will of God concerning lying.

Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbor: for we are members one of another

(Ephesians 4:25)

If you still have a problem telling the whole truth and nothing but the truth, it will affect your desire and your ability to have greater insight into the will of God. Like a child who wants to know how to build a house but won't listen when you try to tell him to clean up his room, so it will be if you don't acknowledge and put into practice that which you already know about the will of God.

You know the will of God where purity is concerned. Peter said that *"He who has called you is holy, so be ye holy in all of your life because I am holy."* A mind that toys with impurity cannot clearly discern the will of God in any area. Then we are wrong when we accuse God of not revealing His will more clearly.

You know the will of God where the tongue is concerned. James said that it was a raging fire that only God can tame. We know that "a man of few words and settled mind is wise", why then won't we be quiet unless we have something to say?

We know the will of God where relationships are concerned. We know the will of God about prayer. We are told to pray for our enemies. We are to pray not because we feel motivated, but because God said to. How many of you this week prayed for your enemies? No wonder we have no discernment where our enemies are concerned. We are to pray for those in authority over us. We are commanded to. But, when we fail to do so, why do we still wonder why we lack wisdom under authority?

We know the will of God about hospitality. We are told to open our homes to strangers in need without wishing we didn't have to. If we distinctly disobey here in our Jerusalem, what right do we

have to expect the will of God to be revealed where our ministry is concerned in Judea, Samaria or the uttermost parts of the earth.

You see, our capacity to know and to do the will of God is directly related to our obedience to what we do know. Noah couldn't nail board A to boards B and C if board B never got put up and board C was in the wrong place. He couldn't blame the blueprints, either.

Let's get even more specific. What about God's specific known will for your life? Let's say two years ago God laid it on your heart to share Christ with a certain person where you worked, or a neighbor, or relative. You were reading the Word and He confirmed that was His will for you. The time came, and you just couldn't bring yourself to do it. So, you set it aside. You see that person day after day or week after week, but you just can't bring yourself to do anything about it. You can't understand why you have no direction from God where your witness is concerned. The reason is disobedience to the known will of God. Maybe God has asked you to go and ask forgiveness or make restitution. Maybe there was a job God impressed you to take one time when an announcement was being made or someone spoke and the Spirit of God said to you, "This is you!" And you said, "Yes, Lord, I will do it." Then you thought about it and decided the cost was too high and you decided it couldn't have been the Lord's will in the first place. Every time you pray, it starts to come up and you put it aside. Maybe it is a call to some kind of special service. Maybe when you heard a sermon about spiritual gifts, the Holy Spirit prompted you to learn what your gift is and you promised the Lord to do that and then you promptly forgot. Maybe it was a sermon that you heard about going the speed limit, and you were convicted all the way home that day. That was the end of it, though.

The oldest illustration is still the best and that is the one about the headlights and finding your way home. You don't wait in the car until you see your house. You follow the lights as far as you can see them. Only then do they shine the next stretch and the next until you arrive safely at your destination. The Christian can see the known will of God in the Word. But the unknown will of God can only be seen as obedience to the known will of God moves the headlights the next distance. You can only see as far as the light goes until you move the light. That is one of the most vital reasons to get on with obeying what we know to do that we are not doing.

<u>The second reason is those who obey the known will of God for</u> <u>their lives develop a more intimate relationship with God and with</u> <u>Christ.</u>

> He that hath My commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest [reveal] myself to him. (John 14:21)

That is what all of us long for, to know the heart of God more perfectly. Jesus said it is ours proportionate to our obedience to the known will of God.

The third reason is assurance of your relationship with God.

And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments.

He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him.

He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked. (I John 2:3-6)

I believe not only the assurance of our salvation but the confidence of our authority in that relationship with God is dependent as well on how obedient we are in the details of life. It is important to be obedient in the things we know God has told us to do.

The fourth area is answered prayer.

Beloved if our heart condemn us not, then have we confidence toward God.

And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him (*We would love to stop here, but we must read on.*), because we keep His commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight. (I John 3:21)

There is the basis of answered prayer. There is the power to answered prayer. Have you ever wondered why some people, even some young Christians that are brand new in their faith, can just pray and it seems that they have a direct line to God and before they stop speaking, God has answered. Do you know why? It is because that what they have been told to do, they have done. When God spoke, they responded. They didn't know better. They knew that Christ was their Savior and that God was their King and when He spoke, they listened. When God said move, they moved.

Because of the intensity of their availability and their obedience, God always answered their prayers. That is the secret. You may say, "Well, some people are just more powerful in prayer because of their spiritual gift or some special calling." I think it is true that those with the gift of mercy for instance may be more naturally prone to more powerful prayer, but all of us are called. "Men ought always to pray and faint not." "Pray without ceasing." Those who have power in prayer are those who are obedient to the known will of God. They are obedient in the little things. They don't lie. They don't steal. They obey the law. They are faithful with their tongue. When God speaks to them about a certain matter, they bow their heads and say, "Yes, Lord," then they go out and do it.

The fifth area is fellowship within the body.

By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep His commandments. This is the love of God that we keep His commandments.

...and His commandments are not grievous. (I John 5:2,3b)

I believe our capacity to have deep fellowship within the church is proportionate to our obedience to what we know to do. Disobedience builds an unconscious wall, creates suspicions and disintegrates that guilelessness that is accepted and accepts. Do you have trouble making friends? One reason may be areas of disobedience in your walk with God.

The sixth area is greater love.

And now I beseech thee, dear lady, not as though I wrote a new commandment unto thee, but that which we had from the beginning, that we love one another.

And this is love, that we walk after his commandments. This is the commandment, That, ye have heard from the beginning, ye should walk in it. (II John 1:5,6)

Real love is nothing more than God's love poured through a clean vessel. If you pour it through a vessel of disobedience, it ceases to be pure. When love ceases to be pure, it ceases to be love. You learn immediate obedience and you will see a change in your ability to love others and to be loved.

The seventh area is victory in testing.

And why do you call me Lord, Lord, and do not the things that I say? (*Jesus asked*)

Whosoever cometh to me, and heareth my sayings, and doeth them, I will shew you to whom he is like:

He is like a man which built an house, and digged deep, and laid the foundation on the rock.: ...

But he that heareth, and doeth not, is like a man that without a foundation built an house upon the earth; against which the stream did beat vehemently, and immediately it fell; and the ruin of that house was great. (Luke 6:46-49)

Or more commonly recognized from the Matthew account:

Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock:

And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock.

And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand:

And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it. (Matthew 7:24-27)

Testing comes, but the weak man cannot handle it. Why? Disobedience in the key areas of his life. Leviticus 26 is just a picture of most of the Old Testament passages where God specifically said if you walk in His statutes and keep His commandments, and do them, God will do a bunch of neat things for you. In verses 4 and 5 it says there will be *rain in due season* and He will *take care of your needs*. In verse 6 God says there will be *peace in the land* and He will *take care of your fellowship*. In verses 7 and 8 He says there will be *victory over your enemies*. He says five of you will chase a hundred and a hundred of you will chase ten thousand. Your enemies will fall before the sword. In verse 12 He says *He will walk among you and be your God and you will be His people*. Victory depends on having the armor in place. Known disobedience in any area leaves us vulnerable to enemy attacks.

The eighth area is identification with Christ.

"Thy mother and brother stand outside to see Thee," one disciple told Christ.

"My mother and brother are those who hear the Word of God and do it," He replied. (Luke 8:20b,21 paraphrase)

Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: (Matthew 5:19a)

The more perfectly we obey Him *even in the little things*, the more we begin to take on His likeness and become identified as His.

The last area is <u>development of spiritual character</u>.

Psalm 103:20 talks about the angels and their relative strength because they harken to the voice of the Lord and do everything He asks them to do.

But whoso harkeneth unto Me shall dwell safely, and shall be quiet from fear of evil. (Proverbs 1:33)

My son forget not My law; but let thine heart keep my commandments:

For length o days, and long life, and peace, shall they add to thee. (Proverbs 3:1)

Strength, quietness, peace, joy, and the qualities of the Christcontrolled life are the result of obedience.

Can you imagine what that ark would have looked like if you and I were building it? Can't you hear God say, "Russell, I want you to build an ark. Russell! Russell!" Then the angels would say, "Russell is out of fellowship again. Call up another whale. That is the only way You will get his attention." All of that valuable time is wasted while God is trying to get your attention and my attention. Time God doesn't have. God just wants us to hush and listen to His ways and His commands. We can come up with all of the excuses we want, but it is still disobedience. Most of us would wonder why we would have to spend all of those hours and years making a boat just for our family. God would answer, "Yes, just for them. They are the number one priority in your life. Labor if need be your whole life for them. Help them build their ark. They are My plan to replenish the earth."

You may think that God was fortunate to have Noah and not us. Wait a minute. You and I are each building an ark. It is called the Christian life. Our directions are all in the Scripture s. Every room is an aspect of the character of God as it is revealed in Christ. Our instructions are crystal clear as is the promise that God will send storms to test the boat. If we who have been declared just by faith do not walk with God in total availability with perfect obedience, we will not be declared to be perfect in our generation. Some of our arks look like monstrosities because we haven't followed instructions. Some of them barely float and it hasn't even started to rain.

Man's problem and our problem is not *finding* the will of God, it is *doing* the will of God. If every one of us purposed to obey without hesitation or compromise, a step at a time, in every area of life that God has spoken to us about in this lesson, we would begin to see lives that were blessed, have direction, have peace, have new strength, new fellowship, new assurance, new intimacy, new power in prayer, new love, and new victory in the midst of the conflict. We would be able to discern what the next stretch of the journey would be with no problem because the headlights of obedience would brighten the highway of doubt and we would not stop until we were in the center of the will of God. If God has spoken to you through this lesson about any area of your life where progress has stopped through disobedience, don't neglect to write it down right now. Then, write down what you plan to do about it and when you plan to do it. Quietly ask God's forgiveness for not obeying Him immediately in the first place. God said to Noah, "Do this." Noah heard him because he was available. Being available, Noah obeyed, and the Scriptures said, Thus did Noah according to all that God commanded, so did he.

# THUS DID NOAH

Thus did Noah and the Scripture records He still speaks though he's dead For righteous Noah did Exactly what God had said.

No short two-by-fours, No crooked, rusty nails, No extra windows added, No unwanted sails.

No third-rate pitch to leak, No creatures left behind, No arguments, no after-thoughts, No switch in God's design.

Noah, righteous Noah, Did just as he was told. He labored on and on and on And watched God's plan unfold.

He offered God no second best He never cried, "Unfair!" He preached the truth with faithfulness Though no results were there.

And thus did Noah at journey's end He worshipped God and prayed, Never did he question God He simply just obeyed.

So he's a living legend A message to me and to you, A portrait from God of just what He And one faithful man can do.

His message is one we can all learn For He shows us just where to start. He says, "Simply obey what you know to do And you will have found God's heart."

Let's pray,

Our Father and our God,

Some of us have been quickened in our spirits today, about specific issues and specific areas of our lives where Your sweet Spirit, through Your precious word, has spoken to us in times past. And even though our intentions may have been good, we have been characterized by disobedience, and we're crying for more intimacy with You, for more power from You, for more vision of Your will for our lives. And You're quietly whispering, "Just do as Noah did, as Noah was asked, he did".

We ask this morning, Father, that You would not let us forget those things You've placed on our hearts this morning, and that You'd keep causing them to pop into our minds every time we pray, until we actually do something about it. And then give us the victory, knowing that it's only Christ in us that can enable us to be faithful. May we yield ourselves to Your power, and live in the sheer victory of the abiding life.

To Jesus be praise and honor and glory forever,

Amen.

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