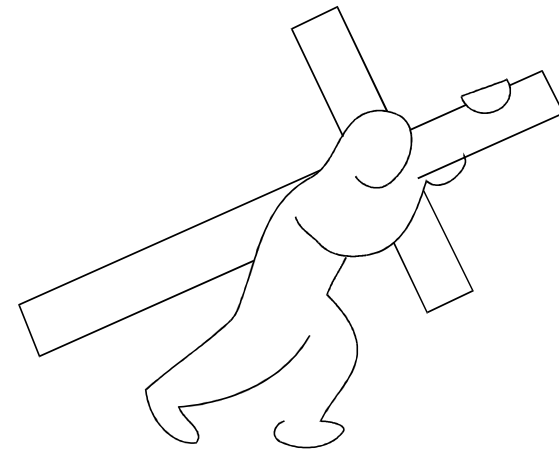


SERMON NOTES SERIES

PERSONAL BIBLE STUDY NOTES

*Faith and
Determination*



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SENIOR PASTOR**



Hi,

Over the years I have had numerous people ask me for a copy of my sermon notes for their own personal Bible studies. I am glad to be able to present them to you. You have in your hands an exact copy of my sermon notes for your very own personal studies. I pray that as you study the Word, that the Holy Spirit will add even more than what you have before you. Put yourself there in what you are studying. What were they feeling, what were they facing...make the Word come alive by placing yourself there.

I am also including a list of the resources that I use to obtain my information, but I will say this, without the Holy Spirit guiding and teaching you under the anointing all you have is just a bunch of books. I always pray before, during, and upon deliverance of each message I receive. I pray that...***you might be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding (Colossians 1:9).*** I am both honored and blessed that you have selected a Sermon Notes Series and I pray that it will be a blessing to you!

With Much Love,
Pastor John

RESOURCES USED

- * The Companion Bible
- * Dake's Annotated Reference Bible
- * Young's Analytical Concordance To The Bible
- * A Dictionary Of Bible Types
- * Vine's Expository Dictionary Of New Testament Words
- * The American College Dictionary
- * World's Bible Handbook
- * The Zondervan Pictorial Bible Dictionary
- * Nelson's Three- in- One Bible Reference Companion
- * The Word -The Bible In 26 Translations
- * God's Plan For Man
- * Harper's Encyclopedia Of Bible Life
- * Nelson's Expository Dictionary Of The Old Testament
- * Manners And Customs From the Bible
- * What The Bible Is All About
- * Halley's Bible Handbook

These are just a small listing of the study aides that I use. The greatest study aide available is letting the Holy Spirit be your teacher. May you get to know Him!

Words translated from the Gk = Greek and Hb=Hebrew.

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OUR VISION

“My people are destroyed for a lack of knowledge;”
Hosea 4:6

“For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he.”
Proverbs 23:7

“...and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding;”
Colossians 1:9

“Through wisdom is an house builded; and by understanding it is established: and by knowledge shall the chambers be filled with all precious and pleasant riches. A wise man is strong; yea, a man of knowledge increaseth strength.”
Proverbs 24:3-5

“And the Gospel must first be published among all nations.”
Mark 13:10

As the Scriptures speak for themselves, our vision is to empower Believers everywhere to live a victorious abundant lifestyle that can be obtained through wisdom and understanding. If you are willing to change the way you think, you can change the way you live. A renewed mind towards the Word of God established you firmly in the faith and opens the door for the blessings and benefits of God to become evident in your life.

Because We Believe In You,
John and Karen Pelizzari

FAITH AND DETERMINATION

2 Timothy 2:3 **Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.**

2 Timothy 2:3 (MSG) **When the going gets rough, take it on the chin with the rest of us, the way Jesus did.**

1. There was a man named John Wesley who was a Church of England cleric and Christian theologian. Wesley is largely credited, along with his brother Charles Wesley, as founding the Methodist movement which began when he took to open-air preaching.
 - a. This was against what was considered normal church services at the time.
 - b. But God had put this in his heart and he was bound and determined.
2. A page from *John Wesley's Diary* reads as follows:
 - a. Sunday morning, May 5 - preached in St. Ann's, was asked not to come back anymore.
 - b. Sunday p.m., May 5 - preached at St. John's, deacons said, "*Get out and stay out.*"
 - c. Sunday a.m., May 12 - preached at St. Jude's,

can't go back there either.

- d. Sunday p.m., May 12 - preached at St. George's, kicked out again.
 - e. Sunday a.m., May 19 - preached at St. somebodyelse's, deacons called special meeting and said I couldn't return.
 - f. Sunday p.m., May 19 - preached on the street, kicked off the street.
 - g. Sunday a.m., May 26 - preached in meadow, chased out of meadow as a bull was turned loose during the services.
 - h. Sunday a.m., June 2 - preached out at the edge of town, kicked off the highway.
 - i. Sunday p.m., June 2 - afternoon service, preached in a pasture, ***10,000*** people came to hear me.
3. Had it not been for his faith and determination, some of the church reforms would never have taken place if he had not chosen to obey God.
4. **Determination** is defined as:
- a. the inner fortitude and strength of character.
 - b. being disciplined to remain consistent, strong and diligent regardless of the odds or the demands.

- c. the act of deciding definitely and firmly, or coming to a resolve.
 - d. acting in faith when we temporarily lose sight of where we are going.
5. In this day and age, we need to have a determined effort in everything that we are involved in, both spiritual and natural.
- a. Why? Because life is not fair.

1 Peter 2:19 For this is thankworthy, if a man for conscience toward God endure grief, suffering wrongfully.

1 Peter 2:19 (NLT) For God is pleased with you when, for the sake of your conscience, you patiently endure unfair treatment.

6. Many Christians fail in many areas because they fail to make a determined effort.
- a. Marriages fail.
 - b. Business ventures fail.
 - c. Ministries fail.
 - d. Personally fail.
 - e. Dreams fail.

- f. Even hopes fail.
- 7. Instead of having faith and determination, people resort to complaining and fault finding.
 - a. God's not doing this; God's not doing that.
 - b. If only I wasn't married to "them."
 - c. If I didn't have these people in my life.
 - d. I don't understand what's wrong with this world we live in.
- 8. This is what the Bible says about a person like this:

Mark 4:14 The sower soweth the word.

Mark 4:16-17 ^[16] **And these are they likewise which are sown on stony ground; who, when they have heard the word, immediately receive it with gladness;** ^[17] **And have no root in themselves, and so endure but for a time: afterward, when affliction or persecution ariseth for the word's sake, immediately they are offended.**

- 9. They hear the word preached but because they have no root in themselves, they get offended immediately.

Mark 4:14 (NLT) The farmer I talked about is the one who brings God's message to others.

- 10. In this case, that would be your Pastor.

Mark 4:17 (NLT) But like young plants in such soil, their roots don't go very deep. At first they get along fine, but they wilt as soon as they have problems or are persecuted because they believe the word.

- 11. Why do you have problems?
- 12. To challenge what you are willing to believe about God.

Mark 4:17 (MSG) But there is such shallow soil of character that when the emotions wear off and some difficulty arrives, there is nothing to show for it.

- 13. Why do people complain and fault find during difficulties? They have shallow soil of character.
 - a. It's much easier to blame God, the wife, the economy or the way we were brought up.

14. You can have plenty of vision, insight, and purpose but without faith and determination, you will not get the job done.

- a. When everything around you seems to be failing, your faith and determination must kick in to keep you going in the midst of doubt and uncertainty.

15. So how can you stay on course when everything else around you seems to be falling apart?

Proverbs 4:23 (NLT) Above all else, guard your heart, for it affects everything you do.

16. Unbelief will use negative, contrary circumstances around you to challenge what you believe about God.

Proverbs 4:24 (NLT) Avoid all perverse talk; stay far from corrupt speech.

17. Unbelief wants ownership of your mouth so that you will curse your efforts and put a hindrance to the work of God going on in your life.

18. When you lack faith and determination, you will turn the promises into complaints and the blessings into faultfinding.

Proverbs 4:25 (NLT) Look straight ahead, and fix

your eyes on what lies before you.

19. Walk by faith. Remind yourself of the promises and the prophecies of God.

Proverbs 4:26 (NLT) Mark out a straight path for your feet; then stick to the path and stay safe.

20. Be determined to stay on course of whatever it is that you are pursuing.

Proverbs 4:27 (NLT) Don't get sidetracked; keep your feet from following evil.

21. Getting sidetracked starts with your mind. Your mouth follows and then does the rest of you.

- a. You will always gravitate towards your most dominate thought.

22. The late, great John Osteen used to say:

Great it is to dream the dream when you stand in youth by the starry stream... but a greater thing is to fight life through, and say at the end, the dream is true.

23. What is he saying?

24. It's easy to dream the dream when you're young.

But to reach that dream it will take faith and determination so one day you will say, “ ...***the dream has come true.***”

25. I am not sure what you are facing right now. I don't know what obstacles some of you may be facing but I will exhort you to maintain your faith and determination so that you will obtain the fulfillment of what you are believing God for.

a. Without faith and determination, you will find yourself being tossed here and there and beaten to a pulp when the enemy comes against you.

b. And the enemy can tell when we complain and fault find.

26. The storms and difficulties of life reveal the character that you really are.

1 Corinthians 16:13 **Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit ye like men, be strong.**

1 Corinthians 16:13 (NLT) **Be on guard. Stand true to what you believe. Be courageous. Be strong.**

27. It's your dream, your goal, your vision. If you don't stand for it, who will?

Ephesians 6:13

Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

28. You have to withstand the enemy. You have to do your all.

a. If you will do what you can, God will do what you can't.

29. The thing that you must realize is that the devil is making a determined effort towards us and if he is more determined than you, he will win.

30. Allow me to give you an unusual example:

a. God told the children of Israel to conquer the land.

b. As the different tribes are receiving the land that God promised, one tribe is having a problem.

Joshua 17:12-13 (MSG)

^[12] **The people of Manasseh never were able to take over these towns — the Canaanites wouldn't budge. ^[13] But later, when the Israelites got stronger, they put the**

Canaanites to forced labor. But they never did get rid of them.

31. The reason the children of Manasseh were not able to drive the Canaanites completely off of the land was because they lacked the faith and determination to do so.
- a. They met resistance that they were not expecting.
 - b. “but we thought God said.”
32. The Canaanites were more determined to stay then the tribe of Manasseh was to drive them out.
- a. And, when the Israelites grew stronger, instead of them kicking them out, they forced them into slave labor and made them pay tribute money.
 - b. This was compromise, tolerating the enemy instead of eliminating the enemy.

Ephesians 4:27 Neither give place to the devil.

Ephesians 4:27 (MSG) Don't give the Devil that kind of foothold in your life.

33. How many times have we given place to the devil, because we lack the faith and determination to

completely drive him out of our lives even though God has given us the authority and the power to defeat the enemy?

- a. We must have more of a determined effort than the enemy.

Acts 20:24 But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God.

34. Paul determined not to let anything move him.
35. What can the enemy use to move you?
- a. Not having things go your way.
 - b. People / children / spouse not acting the way you want them to.
 - c. Financial stress.
 - d. Unexpected incidents beyond your control.
36. Allow me to give you some Kingdom Keys so that you can maintain faith and determination to achieve and receive what God has for you:

**Kingdom Key # 1: Y O U C A N N O T B E
DEFEATED, SO DON'T
QUIT!**

**Romans 8:31 (MSG) So, what do you think? With
God on our side like this,
how can we lose?**

37. Quitting is not something that you do. It is a belief that you follow.

**Kingdom Key # 2: K N O W I T ' S A L L
WORKING OUT FOR
YOUR GOOD!**

**Romans 8:28 (NLT) And we know that God
causes everything to work
together for the good of
those who love God and are
called according to his
purpose for them.**

38. God has your best interest in His heart.

**Kingdom Key # 3: B E S T R O N G A N D
COURAGEOUS. DON'T
GIVE INTO FEAR!**

**Joshua 1:9 (NLT) I command you—be strong
and courageous! Do not be
afraid or discouraged. For
the Lord your God is with**

you wherever you go."

39. You are never alone like you think you are.

**Kingdom Key # 4: R E F U S E T O B E
INTIMIDATED!**

**Philippians 1:28 (NLT) Don't be intimidated by
your enemies. This will be
a sign to them that they
are going to be destroyed,
but that you are going to
be saved, even by God
himself.**

40. Enemies come in all forms and ways:

a. Bad, painful memories.

b. A statement from an unsuspecting individual.

c. Bold confrontation.

d. One's interpretation of what was actually said.

**Kingdom Key # 5: A S E T B A C K I S N O T A
PERMANENT PLACE!**

**Micah 7:8 Rejoice not against me, O mine
enemy: when I fall, I shall arise;
when I sit in darkness, the Lord shall
be a light unto me.**

41. Everyone falls. Jesus did when He was carrying His cross. But it's how you get back up that determines the victory.

Kingdom Key # 6: TRY AGAIN AND AGAIN AND AGAIN AND AGAIN!

Galatians 6:9 (NLT) So don't get tired of doing what is good. Don't get discouraged and give up, for we will reap a harvest of blessing at the appropriate time.

42. Everyone has a due season for harvest. Most never reach it because they give up along the way.

Kingdom Key # 7: IF IT IS GOING TO BE, IT'S UP TO ME...AND GOD!

1 Chronicles 28:20 And David said to Solomon his son, Be strong and of good courage, and do it: fear not, nor be dismayed: for the Lord God, even my God, will be with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee, until thou hast finished all the work for the service of the house of the Lord.

43. God believes in you more than you do in yourself.

Kingdom Key # 8: DON'T SURRENDER TO DISCOURAGEMENT OR DESPAIR!

2 Corinthians 4:8 We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair;

44. Just because you don't understand what's going on doesn't mean that you have a right to give up.

45. Faith and determination will get you to your destination. Go for it!

E N D