



*Easter Series*

*Moments that Matter*

*Staying the Course*



## Easter Season – High Point in Celebration

### Biblical Pattern

- remember what God has done
- celebrate His love and action towards us
- renew our hope & perspective today
- adjust our actions to reality

Given a pattern of celebrations & holidays

Danger – lose impact or meaning in familiar stories or celebrations



## **1. Foundational Truths**

a) God is Able – Isaiah 46:8-11

“Remember this and stand firm,  
recall it to mind, you transgressors,  
<sup>9</sup> remember the former things of old;  
for I am God, and there is no other;  
I am God, and there is none like me,  
<sup>10</sup> declaring the end from the beginning  
and from ancient times things not yet done,  
saying, ‘My counsel shall stand,  
and I will accomplish all my purpose,’



<sup>11</sup> calling a bird of prey from the east,  
the man of my counsel from a far country.  
I have spoken, and I will bring it to pass;  
I have purposed, and I will do it.

b) Our ways and thoughts not God's – 55:8-9  
For my thoughts are not your thoughts,  
neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD.  
<sup>9</sup> For as the heavens are higher than the earth,  
so are my ways higher than your ways  
and my thoughts than your thoughts.



c) Wait on God and He Acts – 64:4

From of old no one has heard  
or perceived by the ear,  
no eye has seen a God besides you,  
who acts for those who wait for him.

## **2. Practical Outcomes**

a) One place for our trust – Psalm 46

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help  
in trouble. <sup>2</sup> Therefore we will not fear though the  
earth gives way, though the mountains be moved  
into the heart of the sea,



<sup>3</sup> though its waters roar and foam,  
though the mountains tremble at its swelling.  
There is a river whose streams make glad the city of  
God,  
the holy habitation of the Most High.  
<sup>5</sup> God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved;  
God will help her when morning dawns.  
<sup>6</sup> The nations rage, the kingdoms totter;  
he utters his voice, the earth melts.  
<sup>7</sup> The LORD of hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our fortress.



Come, behold the works of the LORD,  
how he has brought desolations on the earth.

<sup>9</sup> He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;  
he breaks the bow and shatters the spear;  
he burns the chariots with fire.

<sup>10</sup> “Be still, and know that I am God.  
I will be exalted among the nations,  
I will be exalted in the earth!”

<sup>11</sup> The LORD of hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our fortress.



b) How we are active in trusting – 37:1-7

Fret not yourself because of evildoers;  
be not envious of wrongdoers!

<sup>2</sup> For they will soon fade like the grass  
and wither like the green herb.

<sup>3</sup> Trust in the LORD, and do good;  
dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness.

<sup>4</sup> Delight yourself in the LORD,  
and he will give you the desires of your heart.



## *Moments that Matter*

## *Staying the Course*

Commit your way to the LORD;  
trust in him, and he will act.

<sup>6</sup> He will bring forth your righteousness as the light,  
and your justice as the noonday.

<sup>7</sup> Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for him;  
fret not yourself over the one who prospers in his  
way,  
over the man who carries out evil devices!

<sup>8</sup> Refrain from anger, and forsake wrath!  
Fret not yourself; it tends only to evil.

<sup>9</sup> For the evildoers shall be cut off,  
but those who wait for the LORD shall inherit the  
land.



- release your anxiety
- trust
- delight
- commit
- be still
- wait for His provision

### **3. Example of Jesus**

#### **a) withdrew and spent time**

- Matthew 14
- Mark 6
- John 6



## So What?

### 1. Recall the Foundational Truth

- God is Able and Active
- God's Ways different and higher than ours
- God Acts for those who wait on Him

### 2. Review Your Practice in Life

- Where is my trust placed?
- How am I active in placing that trust?
- Am I still enough to know?

### 3. Renew Your Practices

- time to withdraw and listen
- do I follow the example of Jesus?



#### 4. Creating Space this Easter Season

- read the biblical accounts
- be intentional about quiet time
- ask the Holy Spirit to reveal anew the truth
- Plan time and activity to Remember
- Schedule celebration responding to God's love & action on your behalf
- Be intentional about trusting your circumstances to a God who is able and acts
- Review your actions in light of these truths