

SERIES: LOOKING BACK – MOVING FORWARD

SPEAKER: NAT CRAWFORD Wednesday, August 17, 2022 Scripture: Psalm 119:130-133 TITLE: The Secret to Faithfulness

Have you ever built something from Legos? We really enjoy Legos at the Crawford household. But when my kids were young, we would buy them these Lego sets - you know - ones that were specifically designed to build a house, an airplane, or a movie set. So you probably know where I'm going with this. They didn't stay constructed, but instead destroyed, and the pieces mixed up. Well, my wife determined to find each piece and reconstruct each piece. And guess what, she did it! But she had to have instructions to find each piece. So, as she turned each page, it directed her path to build each set.

God's Word is the secret for our success in building faithfulness. Here's what Psalm 119 says:

"The unfolding of your words gives light; it gives understanding to the simple. I open my mouth and pant, longing for your commands. Turn to me and have mercy on me, as you always do to those who love your name. Direct my footsteps according to your word; let no sin rule over me" (Ps. 119:130-133, NIV).

According to your feedback, many of you struggle with faithfulness. You feel like you're trying to build a meaningful life according to God's best, but you don't know how. Chances are, you've put down the instruction book – the Bible. The Psalmist says the Bible is light. It makes the complexities of life simple. Don't you desire that? I sure do.

The Psalmist says he pants for God's Word. I think if we remembered that:

- 1) God's Word is a love letter to us, we might long for it. When my wife and I were dating, we would write each other love notes. I would long for one. I would read it over and over again. God's Word is a love letter. We should pant for it.
- 2) God's Word is a practical instruction manual for life. Yes, there is a lot of description of history in the Bible, but it's also full of rich prescriptions for living well. So if you want to be faithful in your Christian walk, you need to rely on God's Word for the path. When we submit to God and His Word, we will avoid sin.

So here's my challenge for you today: Ask yourself, where are you trying to do life on your own? Where is it you struggle with faithfulness? Is it in your finances? Is it in the area of sex? Is it how you manage your time? Is it how you are treating others? Uncover it. Confess it to God. And then turn to God's Word to aid you in getting back on track.

If you aren't sure where to start, take our spiritual fitness assessment in goTandem. It will feed you Scripture and content in your areas of struggle to get you moving again. It's what I do. I invite you to join me in the journey.

When we follow God's direction, we will win the day.