

# Looking Back

## Pt. 1 - Woulda (Intentions)

*Luke 9:62*, Jesus said to him, "No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."

*Luke 17:32*, Remember Lot's wife.

- Looking back through our 'woulda' is regret's way of stating its intentions.

*James 4:17*, Remember, it is sin to know what you ought to do and then not do it.

*Matthew 21:28-31*, "What do you think? There was a man who had two sons. He went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work today in the vineyard.' 29 "I will not," he answered, but later he changed his mind and went. 30 "Then the father went to the other son and said the same thing. He answered, 'I will, sir,' but he did not go. 31 "Which of the two did what his father wanted?" "The first," they answered. Jesus said to them, "I tell you the truth, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you."

- We must get intentional about acting on our intentions.

*Matthew 19:16-22*, Now a man came up to Jesus and asked, "Teacher, what good thing must I do to get eternal life?" 17 "Why do you ask me about what is good?" Jesus replied. "There is only One who is good. If you want to enter life, obey the commandments." 18 "Which ones?" the man inquired. Jesus replied, "'Do not murder, do not commit adultery, do not steal, do not give false testimony, 19 honor your father and mother, 'and 'love your neighbor as yourself. '" 20 "All these I have kept," the young man said. "What do I still lack?" 21 Jesus answered, "If you want to be perfect, go, sell your possessions and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me." 22 When the young man heard this, he went away sad, because he had great wealth.

*Matthew 7:21-23*, "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord, 'will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. 22 Many will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and in your name

drive out demons and perform many miracles? '23 Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!'

1 John 3:18, Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth.

## How to Move Beyond Intention

### 1. Set a goal.

*Proverbs 29:18*, Where there is no vision, the people are out of control, But how blessed is he who keeps the law.

### 2. State your intention.

*2 Corinthians 1:17*, When I planned this, did I do it carelessly? Or do I make my plans by human standards, so as to say "Yes, yes" when I really mean "No, no"?

### 3. Take a step.

*Galatians 5:25*, Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.

*James 2:26*, ...faith without deeds is dead.

### 4. Evaluate your progress.

*Haggai 1:5*, Now this is what the LORD Almighty says: "Give careful thought to your ways.

*2 Corinthians 13:5*, Test yourselves to discover whether you are true believers: put your own selves under examination.

### 5. Commit yourself to seeing it through.

*2 Corinthians 8:11*, So finish what you began to do. Then your willingness will be matched by what you accomplish...