

Looking Back

Pt. 3 - Shoulda (Responsibilities)

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 'shoulda' is regret's way of grieving irresponsibility.

Ezra 10:4, "Get up, for this matter is your responsibility, and we will support you. Be strong and take action!"

Luke 19:8, But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount."

- To act irresponsibly is a denial of the faith.

1 Timothy 5:8, If anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for his immediate family, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.

Galatians 6:5, ...each one should carry his own load.

2 Corinthians 5:10, For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive what is due him for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.

1 Corinthians 4:2, Now it is required of stewards that they be found faithful.

Luke 12:48, From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked.

- God promises to bless us for acting responsibly.

Deuteronomy 28:1-13, 1 If you fully obey the LORD your God and carefully follow all his commands I give you today, the LORD your God will set you high above all the nations on earth. 2 All these blessings will come upon you and accompany you if you obey the

LORD your God: 3 You will be blessed in the city and blessed in the country. 4 The fruit of your womb will be blessed, and the crops of your land and the young of your livestock - the calves of your herds and the lambs of your flocks. 5 Your basket and your kneading trough will be blessed. 6 You will be blessed when you come in and blessed when you go out. 7 The LORD will grant that the enemies who rise up against you will be defeated before you. They will come at you from one direction but flee from you in seven. 8 The LORD will send a blessing on your barns and on everything you put your hand to. The LORD your God will bless you in the land he is giving you. 9 The LORD will establish you as his holy people, as he promised you on oath, if you keep the commands of the LORD your God and walk in his ways. 10 Then all the peoples on earth will see that you are called by the name of the LORD, and they will fear you. 11 The LORD will grant you abundant prosperity - in the fruit of your womb, the young of your livestock and the crops of your ground - in the land he swore to your forefathers to give you. 12 The LORD will open the heavens, the storehouse of his bounty, to send rain on your land in season and to bless all the work of your hands. You will lend to many nations but will borrow from none. 13 The LORD will make you the head, not the tail. If you pay attention to the commands of the LORD your God that I give you this day and carefully follow them, you will always be at the top, never at the bottom.

Philippians 4:13, I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength.

7 Things God Says We Are Responsible For

1. Studying and obeying God's Word.

2 Timothy 2:15, Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth.

2. Praying and giving thanks.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, 16 Rejoice always, 17 pray continually, 18 give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

3. Sharing the gospel.

Matthew 28:19-20, "19 ...go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

4. Love.

Matthew 22:37-39, 37 "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. 38 This is the first and greatest commandment. 39 And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'"

5. Give.

2 Corinthians 9:7, You should each give, then, as you have decided, not with regret or out of a sense of duty; for God loves the one who gives gladly.

6. Serve.

1 Peter 4:10, Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.

7. Keep a good attitude.

Philippians 2:14, Do everything without complaining or arguing.

- Looking back through our "shoulda" provides us with plenty to act upon.

1 John 3:18, Dear children, we must show love through actions that are sincere, not through empty words.

Luke 16:10, "Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much."