

Sermon Notes

Practical Lessons for Understanding the Word of God



如何靠上帝

转危机成转机

Turning Our Crisis Into An Opportunity

06/07/2015

KEY PASSAGE: Genesis Chapters 37-50 | SUPPORTING SCRIPTURE: Psalm 103:19 | Isaiah 55:8-9 | Romans 8:28-29 Ephesians 4:26

创10:26

创三一至十, 约瑟的一生.

诗-0三:19,

赛五:8-9,

罗八:28-29

SUMMARY

How do you respond to a crisis?

如何应对至关重要!

At some point in our lives, we all will face hardships, losses, and painful circumstances. Too often, we fail to view suffering with an eternal perspective. But our heavenly Father always has a purpose for adversity in our lives, and we can profit from it if we respond correctly.

The Old Testament patriarch Joseph experienced difficulty, but he learned to react to it wisely. From his example, we can learn how to turn our crises into opportunities.

*the right responses, godly!

SERMON POINTS

Seven Crises in the Life of Joseph

painful, costly

From the time Joseph was a young boy, he knew the bitter taste of adversity. However, each trial he encountered prepared him for God's ultimate purpose for his life.

3 times "hated" 约瑟被恨

Misfortune number one was being hated by his brothers because he was Jacob's favorite son. He made things worse when he told them of his dream that one day they would bow down to him. Learning how to live with ridicule and mistreatment without growing bitter, resentful, or hostile served him well during his years as a slave in Egypt (Gen. 37:1-17).

Second, Joseph's brothers threw him in a pit (Gen. 37:18-24). Although helpless, he remembered God's promise that his brothers would kneel before him one day. That meant the Lord would not allow him to die. Through this crisis, Joseph learned that God was completely trustworthy.

上帝值得完全信靠!

* how to profit from a crisis needs God's wisdom
each one builds on the previous ones.
Testing & trials make us strong.

Third, Joseph was sold into Egypt as a slave (Gen. 37:25-36). Instead of rebelling against his captors, Joseph took advantage of the chance to learn about the Egyptian culture and language, trusting that God had a purpose for allowing that hardship.

He leveraged the fourth setback—being sold to Pharaoh's chief bodyguard, Potiphar—into learning about how an Egyptian family operated. Though as a Hebrew and a slave Joseph was considered inferior, he discovered how to manage a large, prosperous household (Gen. 39:1-6).

His fifth challenge occurred when Potiphar's wife tried to seduce Joseph. He knew that giving into temptation would mean being disloyal to Potiphar and unfaithful to God. He successfully resisted her, though it meant being thrown into prison (Gen. 39:7-20). Through this crisis, Joseph discovered his own strength to resist temptation, and the depth of his devotion to the Lord.

no matter what - trust God

Joseph's refusal to yield to Potiphar's wife brought on the sixth misfortune—prison. Even though Joseph was wronged, he was obedient to authority figures over him and learned how to treat others with kindness (Gen. 39:20-23).

* 对人有恩惠. treat others right!

The seventh and final trial was when Pharaoh asked Joseph to interpret a dream. When Joseph explained that famine was coming after seven years of abundant bounty, he advised Pharaoh to prepare by storing food from the years of plenty. In response, the ruler promoted him to second in command over all of Egypt and placed Joseph in charge of administering food storage (Gen. 41:15-16). Why was Joseph ready for such a responsibility? He had used each crisis in his life as an opportunity to develop himself into a wiser, godlier person.

* Joseph never said anything negative!

* Only God! 唯独上帝!

* God prepares you for something different

约瑟:

埃及地的学习!

Hebrew servant

how to manage and lead.

* to discover himself

即使被诬告

* Caring

fatty vs. lean cows

解梦!

敬畏神

依靠神

对神的忠诚

人越有
真的苦楚
困难
失败
灾难
阻挡
病痛
失意
挫折
愁烦

家人
亲戚
朋友的
同辈
世人

最终
分离
死亡

The Lord also wants to use adversity to strengthen your relationship with Him and prepare you for the challenges that lie ahead.

要如何做使危机成转机:

How to Turn a Crisis into an Opportunity

依靠神

Trust that God is working everything in your life for your good (Rom. 8:28). *All things work in my good.*

相信神

Believe that our heavenly Father is in control of everything. When you and I believe in God's sovereignty, it's easier to retain our hope—even if we don't understand why we are suffering. *诗-02:19*

接受神之至高旨意

Accept that the Lord's ways are higher than ours (Isa. 55:8-9). Don't lose heart by asking why; simply trust God's intimate involvement in your life.

不立刻下判断

Refuse to make quick judgments in the midst of a crisis. Ask, "God, what are you doing in my life?"

专注于神及经文

Focus on the Father instead of the crisis. Meditate on Scripture, which fuels your awareness of the Father's comfort and unconditional love.

避免陷于痛苦中

Avoid dwelling on the pain. It's normal to feel loss and suffering, but instead of fixating on the grief, go to the ultimate source of strength—the Word of God (Ps. 103:19).

回想过往得胜经历

Recall past crises and the opportunities that followed. Seeing God's handiwork through past hardships will encourage you in your current trial (See Romans 8:29).

弃绝生气血气欲望

Let go of your anger immediately. Even if you feel upset at first, don't let that emotion take root in your life (Eph. 4:26). Releasing your irritation frees you to see God's purpose in your circumstances.

委身于上帝的旨意

Submit yourself to God's will. Joseph faced every trial with a humble heart that was willing to grow and learn. When we believe the Lord's promises, we are also motivated to surrender to His will in every situation. *always submissive to God*

感恩

Demonstrate a spirit of gratitude. Even in the darkest valley, knowing the Lord has good plans for your life is a powerful motivator of thankfulness.

转危机成机会

Determine to view the trial as a chance to see God at work. Choose to approach the situation with hope and a desire to learn.

Refuse to listen to unscriptural interpretations of your situation. No matter how well meaning others are, they are not in your exact situation. Ask God how you are to respond to adverse circumstances.

seek God's wisdom #

不随便听从外部人建议

Remain in constant prayer, listening for the Father's instructions. God will often use hardship to draw you closer to Himself. Pain, trials, and suffering are all used by the Father to develop your intimate relationship with Him.

* 随时祷告

Do not give in to fluctuating emotions. When you pray and your situation doesn't change, you may want to give up. But remember that feelings are often the enemy of obedience, and resist the temptation. *不陷入自怨自怜, 神会安慰, 怜悯我.*

God's active love, He will not let us fail or retreat!

* Obey God and leave all the consequences to Him.

No matter what, know that the Father loves you and is in control. You can't go wrong by trusting your entire life to Him. * Run to God, not run away from God.

RESPONSE

Are you facing a crisis today? If so, the Lord wants to turn it into an awesome opportunity for you to develop new skills, strengthen your character, and draw you closer to Him. If you obey God and leave all the consequences to Him, He will conform you to the image of His Son and use all situations for your ultimate blessing.

My prayer for you is that you will surrender to the grace and love of the Father, even in the midst of adversity. Then you will be able to turn each crisis of your life into an amazing opportunity to see Him work.

主願意!
你(她)呢?
完全的順服與交身!

Sometimes our initial response to a crisis is anger. Is it helpful or detrimental to be angry? Have you ever felt a physical relief when you released your anger?

How improbable does it sound to be thankful while in the midst of a crisis? How might it improve your circumstances to give thanks first, and then wait for God's will?

* 感謝並將一切交託神, 順從上帝的帶領及其旨意

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God has the best for us.

耶穌基督及保羅的例子

你真有善主及福音(改變苦嗎)?

順服上帝, 將一切後果交還上帝!

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Sermon Notes

Practical Lessons for Understanding the Word of God



我们对机遇的回应及决定

Responding to Our Opportunities

06/14/15

KEY PASSAGE: Luke 10:25-37 | SUPPORTING SCRIPTURE: Leviticus 19:18 | Matthew 7:12 | Mark 10:43

路十:25-37

利九:18

太七:12

可十:43

Opportunities + godly courage + determination = Go!

SUMMARY

How do you usually respond to the opportunities God gives you? 会有正面的影响

An opportunity is a favorable time or occasion when we are in a position to make a decision that will have a positive impact on our lives or the lives of others. The Lord might prompt us to help the needy, begin new jobs, take mission trips, or share the gospel. However, sometimes we fail to discern God-given chances to serve because we see them as obstacles or interruptions to our lives.

The Good Samaritan willingly stopped to help a dying person, even though this cost him time, energy, and money. Why? The Samaritan recognized a God-given opportunity when he saw one. His godly response revealed his devotion to the Lord. We, too, reveal our spiritual condition by how we respond to the opportunities He sends.

信靠+顺服+决定

SERMON POINTS

How we respond to opportunities reveals whether or not: 阻碍或机会

We can discern between an obstacle and an opportunity. There are times when God opens doors for us to minister to others, but we see these as interruptions. This is probably how the priest and the Levite viewed the man lying on the side of the road. As spiritual leaders, they should have been the first to want to help a suffering man, since the law commanded them to love their neighbors as themselves (Leviticus 19:18; Luke 10:27). They missed a chance to demonstrate God's love, and in doing so, revealed the true nature of their relationships with Him.

有神真真的關係!

* 路十:27 尽心, 尽性, 尽力, 尽意爱主你的神。又要爱你的鄰舍, 如同自己。... 照着去做!

付出来自神真心真意的爱。→ 做好撒玛利人

Something similar happened to me while I was preparing this message. I received a phone call that, at first, seemed like a distraction. Then I realized that this conversation was a chance to minister to someone. Because I saw that God was giving me a divine opportunity, I was able to facilitate a reunion between a father and son who had been estranged for over 30 years.

祭司, 利未人或撒玛利人

* 精神的机会

Jesus is Lord of our lives. If we ignore God-given opportunities, we are not allowing Christ to direct our lives. Once we discern that the Lord is asking us to take a step of faith, we must act obediently.

* 耶稣基督是主

↓ 机会 必须要顺服。

Do you realize there are people in your life who are just waiting for you to reach out to them? They know you are a believer and would love for you to pray for them or share how Jesus is working in your life. But you must be sensitive to the prompting of the Holy Spirit to know how and when to reach out to them.

敏感于圣灵微小的声音

We are ready to utilize our spiritual gifts.

Responding properly to opportunities demonstrates that we are willing to exercise our spiritual gifts. For instance, if someone at work seems to be going through a difficult season of life, you might be able to encourage him or her. There are some people who are in such desperate need that you and I would have to be completely insensitive not to notice that they are crying out for help. I encourage you to reach out by saying things such as, "Is there any way I can help?" and "I'll be praying for you." Sometimes, the smallest amount of loving concern can make all the difference to a hurting person.

使用属灵恩赐 操练 "

安慰伤心; 祷告, 绝望的人

We are willing to give to those in need. How we respond to opportunities reveals our heart towards those who are less fortunate. If we are reluctant to give our time, attention, money, and effort to help the needy, then we need to take a good look

给予有需要的人 the needy - 学习基督

at our relationship with God. Regardless of your situation in life, He has provided you with unique opportunities to make a difference in other people's lives.

■ **We have the courage to respond.** Sometimes, opportunities require us to take risks. Fear of the violence could have kept the Good Samaritan from helping the wounded man, but he chose to act anyway. Even the fact that Jews and Samaritans were enemies didn't stop him from having compassion.

有勇氣

How about you? Do you have the courage to act on the opportunities God gives you, even when there is a risk involved? For instance, speaking to a hurting person about his relationship with God takes courage. But he needs to know that Jesus can be his Healer, Comforter, Savior, and Encourager.

耶穌醫治, 安慰, 拯救, 鼓勵, 同在, 同行, 同工

■ **We trust God to enable us.** The Lord will never call you to do something and then not empower you to achieve His plan for your life. You never have to respond to an opportunity without His presence.

Maybe you worry about how to share the gospel because you feel you don't know enough about the Bible. Remember Jesus promised His disciples that the Holy Spirit would show them what to say (Luke 12:12). The Spirit is willing to do the same for you and me.

■ **We have a servant's spirit.** Jesus said, "Whoever wishes to become great among you shall be your servant" (Mark 10:43). Those who are unwilling to respond obediently to the opportunities God gives them reveal that they don't have any compassion or love for others. Consumed with their own concerns, they are willing to do only what is absolutely required of them, and nothing more.

That, my friend, should not be the attitude of a believer in Jesus Christ.

僕人的心志, 順服, 依靠耶穌及聖靈, 主以同在, 同行並賜力量

■ **Our priorities are in line with God's.** Opportunities reveal our primary concerns.

The priest and the Levite made it a priority to get home rather than stop to help their fellow countryman. The Samaritan took the time to have compassion on a fellow human being. Is one of your goals in life to show kindness to hurting people?

服事, 工作及生活: 優先次序: 先求神的國和神的義!

Aside from our devotion to Him, God's highest priority for our lives is how we treat others (Matt. 7:12). Allow Him to open your eyes to the wounds of the people around you, and then reach out to meet their needs.

■ **We are ruled by faith or fear.** The open doors God provides might include an element of danger or difficulty. How we respond reveals whether we are acting out of faith or fear. The Samaritan could have let his worry about being robbed stop him from helping, but he didn't. The Lord also wants to give you and me opportunities to make a difference in the lives of others. If we trust Him, He will give us the courage to step out in faith.

信心或畏懼

以信心回應吧!

信心也是上帝所賜! 祈求

RESPONSE

Do you usually respond wisely to the opportunities God gives you? Or have you begun to view them, for the most part, as interruptions to your life? I want to challenge you to begin asking the Father to open your eyes to the opportunities He sends your way every day. Pray for the discernment to recognize them as chances to serve, and for the courage to be able to respond in faith every time. Yes, there will be risks, and there will be times you might make a mistake. But if you will act in obedience to the opportunities the Lord sends, He will do amazing things in and through your life.

上帝給我信心, 來信靠, 順服

起來做工

你愛上帝比愛世界多嗎?

As children of God, there are new, promising roads for us to take every day. But we have to decide: Do we believe Him? Do we want to explore what He has to offer us? Take advantage of the unique and exciting opportunities God has planned just for you. My friend, I promise you will not regret it.

■ All of us have spiritual gifts given to us by the Holy Spirit. In what practical ways can you share those gifts this week?

■ What obstacle(s) might hinder you from ministering to someone in need?

God's will and purpose for us can be revealed through

opportunities!

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Stop being self-centered and coward! 靠主智慧百力量而做!