



April 27/28, 2019

Sermon Title: God's Work... God's Way

by: Pastor Blaine Workman

Scripture: 2 Samuel 6:1-10

1. There is no substitute for talking with God about important decisions in our lives. Positive intentions and popular support can't replace a humble posture of prayer that bows to the will of God – “Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.”
2. “I seek at the beginning to get my heart into such a state that it has no will of its own in regard to a given matter. Nine-tenths of the trouble with people is just here. Nine-tenths of the difficulties are overcome when our hearts are ready to do the Lord's will, whatever it may be. When one is truly in this state, it is usually but a little way to the knowledge of what His will is.” [George Muller]
3. Jesus said, “Seek FIRST the kingdom of God and His righteousness...” [Matthew 6:33] The operative word is - First.
4. We often think we know better than God or can improve upon His ways. So, we too try to carry the gospel on the world’s new cart.
5. In this world there will be ever-present the temptation to carry our faith on a “new cart” like the Philistines, rather than on the shoulders of the faithful as prescribed in God’s Word.
6. “Atonement” is the state of being at-one (or reconciled) with a holy God. But the reconciliation is accomplished by means of a sacrifice that satisfies all outstanding offenses.
7. Bottom line - the holiness of God is not a thing to be trifled with - not then, and not now.
8. As sinners in need of mercy and grace, we dare not approach the presence of a holy God without an appropriate covering for our sin.
9. Good intentions and good works will never satisfy a God who refuses to dwell with sin. [Psalm 5:4]

Growth Group Questions
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WARM-UPS

1. Share about your Easter holiday. Did things go as planned? What did you enjoy most?



DISCUSSION

1. What did you find most challenging, helpful, or troubling in the sermon today and why?
2. Have you ever thought you were doing a good and “God honoring” thing only to watch in regret as the wheels came off? If so, explain.
3. When faced with a situation or when birthing a new idea, do you typically consult God before others? Why or why not? Is it okay to consult with others? If so, under what circumstances?
4. Are you currently faced with an important decision? If so, what is it and how can we pray for you?
5. How often do you think about “dying to self?” What does that mean and has this command had any impact on your Christian walk or transformation? Why or why not?
6. Have you been feeling pressured or tempted into embracing any “new carts” of faith? If so, what are they?

IN THE WORD

Read some of the passages below and discuss any insights into today’s message.

- Mark 8:34-35
- Luke 14:27
- Galatians 5:24

PRACTICE

- Spend some time alone with God asking Him if you’ve been carrying a “new cart” of faith in some area of your life. What do you hear Him saying? Are you willing to abandon the “new cart” and do things God’s way?” If so, make a prayerful commitment to do that. Are there any immediate action steps you need to take? If so, what are they?