Keep the Fire Going Strong, One Step at a Time  
우리의 열정을 유지합시다, 한 단계식

Lord’s Day October 6, 2013

Pastor Sang W. Sur

23The Lord directs the steps of the godly. He delights in every detail of their lives.

24Though they stumble, they will never fall, for the Lord holds them by the hand.

34Put your hope in the Lord. Travel steadily along his path. He will honor you by giving you the land. You will see the wicked destroyed.

39The Lord rescues the godly; he is their fortress in times of trouble.

40The Lord helps them, rescuing them from the wicked. He saves them, and they find shelter in him.

23여호와께서 선한 사람의 걸음을 인도하시고 그의 길을 기뻐하시므로

24그가 넘어져도 치명상을 입지 않을 것이니 여호와께서 손으로 그를 붙드심이라.

34여호와께 희망을 두고 그의 명령을 지켜라. 그러면 그가 너를 높여 땅을 소유하게 하실 것이니 악인이 망하는 것을 네가 목격할 것이다.

39여호와는 의로운 자들을 구원하시고 환난 때에 그들의 피난처가 되신다.

40여호와께서 그들을 도와 악인에게서 건져 구하심은 그들이 그를 신뢰하기 때문이다.

Psalm 37:23-24, 34, 39-40

(share sermon experience – short sermon, we will spend some time for prayer in the middle – allow God to touch you with His Word and go deep today – then I’ll conclude and we’ll pray some more for the coming revival of our region, of our country and forth to the world)

God is going to do amazing things

Do you recall those times when you were passionate about something?

(What happens when you are passionate?)

You are excited, you feel on top of the world, nothing’s gonna stop you, you feel alive, you are driven…

Then the world happens to you. You grow weary, want to stop, want to give up.

I recall when I first met Jesus in high school, I was on passionate, on fire for the Lord.

I wanted to know God more, and felt His love for me.

I read the Scripture at least ten chapters at a time – the Word was soooo good

I spoke with Him, and He with me

I bought a guitar to learn, and enjoyed worshipping Him and being in tune with Him through those times

I joined and took active role in the Christian club, became the President of the youth group – the fire went so strong that people sought me for advice, and the pastor even allowed me to give sermons.

People around me were encouraged and there was some glow about me…

But what happened? The world, the culture, they stopped me from my pursuit of joy.

In another words, I became rebellious.

Our modern day culture has developed over the years to be accepting of everyone, everything, every knowledge. It has its good sides and bad. . .

* Culture of no correction – “Don’t judge me, this is how I am”
* There is no right or wrong - Acceptance of everyone but no correction – everyone’s beliefs are ok
* Our culture teaches us to no longer hold respect for those that have gone ahead of us, but rather trust ourselves

I was thinking about this…

Consider meeting with VP of the company – they have less “qualifications” than us two young managers

Our parents, our teachers, our pastors – they are just people like me or even inferior, and therefore, I can speak at my level to them…

We have lost respect for all things – we go before the judge and not fear him – we just want to get out of there with minimal fees

And that culture also relates to our relationship with God.

*Rev 9:20But the people who did not die in these plagues still refused to repent of their evil deeds and turn to God. They continued to worship demons and idols made of gold, silver, bronze, stone, and wood—idols that can neither see nor hear nor walk!*

(Here, God is telling us to turn back to Him, but we ignore it because – who is God anyway! I know better about my life, my future, my destiny. “God does not exist!” – as we would say in our minds).

Glory of God… Worth and weight of His glory

Heavier weight on priests clothing to show that they represent God. There is a great weight on the Lord’s presence.

Kabod = weight

Worship becomes common place – we no longer recognize God’s presence in our worship, but we go through the motions – not even meeting God in the midst.

Shekinah (dwelling) glory be with you in your workplace, your school, your church, your life

(Hebrew: שכינה‎)

Know God, see God in His might, in His glory, in His authority

(Pray) – let us humble ourselves before Him – this is critical part that we must do before we can realize His presence in our lives

Deut 4:26-31

26 “Today I call on heaven and earth as witnesses against you. If you break my covenant, you will quickly disappear from the land you are crossing the Jordan to occupy. You will live there only a short time; then you will be utterly destroyed. 27 For the Lord will scatter you among the nations, where only a few of you will survive. 28 There, in a foreign land, you will worship idols made from wood and stone—gods that neither see nor hear nor eat nor smell. 29 But from there you will search again for the Lord your God. And if you search for him with all your heart and soul, you will find him.

30 “In the distant future, when you are suffering all these things, you will finally return to the Lord your God and listen to what he tells you. 31 For the Lord your God is a merciful God; he will not abandon you or destroy you or forget the solemn covenant he made with your ancestors.

Who are those that are godly?

Those that are in relationship with God

Those that trust Him, in His saving grace

Those that love Him

Steadily – not rushing, not speeding through, not in a busy state – but steadily, one step at a time.

Obey what you know…

Then walking with Him, one step at a time

* Your work
* Your school
* Your church
* Your life

We may feel like our ministry is waning, some of us feeling like giving up – in these times, what God calls us to do is to seek Him with all our heart